

Fluoroquinolones: Synthesis and Application

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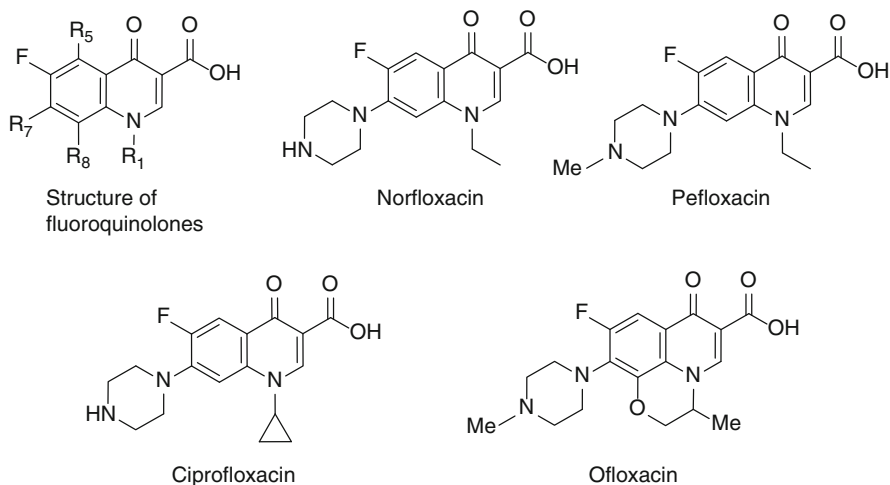
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Abstract The data on 6-fluoro-1,4-dihydroquinolin-4-oxo-3-carboxylic acids and their structural analogues accumulated in the literature for the last 10–15 years are reviewed. Synthetic approaches to the quinolone system, as well as all kind of structural modifications by incorporating substituents into 1–8 positions or by means of annelation have been discussed. The “structure-activity” relationships for antibacterial fluoroquinolones, as well as the data on other types of biological activity for the family of bi- and polycyclic fluoroquinolones are presented. The formation of complexes of fluoroquinolones with metals and their applications have been considered. The bibliography – 377 references.

Keywords Fluoroquinolones • Polycyclic fluoroquinolones • Synthesis • Modifications • Annelation • Activity • Metal complexes

1 Introduction

Nearly three decades passed since the time when the first representatives of the fluoroquinolone family of antibacterials, such as norfloxacin, pefloxacin, ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin had appeared in the world pharmaceutical market (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1 Structure of some fluoroquinolone antibacterials

E.V. Nosova

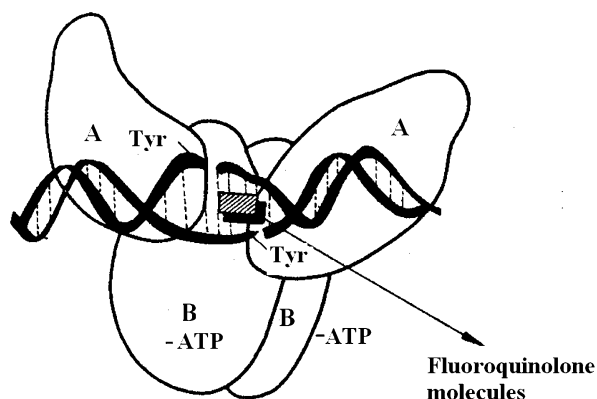
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Fig. 1 Inhibiting bacterial DNA-gyrase by fluoroquinolones
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It is worth mentioning that the first drug in the series of quinolones, nalidixic acid (1-ethyl-1,4-dihydro-7-methyl-4-oxo-1,8-naphthyridin-3-carboxylic acid), bearing no fluorine atoms, was launched into medicinal practice in 1963.

Structural modification of the quinolone skeleton by incorporating of fluorine atoms at C-6 and other positions of the benzene ring resulted in a remarkable improvement of antimicrobial properties and opened new prospects in clinical treatment of infections. Indeed, compounds of the fluoroquinolone family proved to exhibit a high level of antibacterial activity and a wide spectrum which surpass many antibiotics, including the third generation of cephalosporin's and other chemotherapeutic antibacterials [1–13]. Due to enhanced penetration ability through cell membranes and their effects on bacteria reproduction by inhibiting bacterial DNA-gyrase, fluoroquinolones possess a high antibacterial activity (Fig. 1) [6].

It is extremely important that fluoroquinolones have a specific mechanism of action, different from antibiotics and other groups of antibacterials (cephalosporins, aminoglycosides, etc.), which allows one to apply fluoroquinolones for treatment of infectious diseases caused by strains resistant to many other classes of antibacterials drugs.

Depending on their behavior relative to bacteria enzymes of three types of fluoroquinolones can be distinguished:

- the first type of fluoroquinolones inhibiting mainly the topoisomerase IV: norfloxacin, enoxacin, fleroxacin, ciprofloxacin, lomefloxacin, trovafloxacin, grepafloxacin, ofloxacin and levofloxacin;
- the second type of fluoroquinolones which inhibit mainly the DNA-gyrase (nadifloxacin and sparfloxacin);
- the third type of fluoroquinolones which have a double effect: they inhibit both topoisomerase IV and DNA-gyrase: gatifloxacin, pazufloxacin, moxyfloxacin, and clinafloxacin.

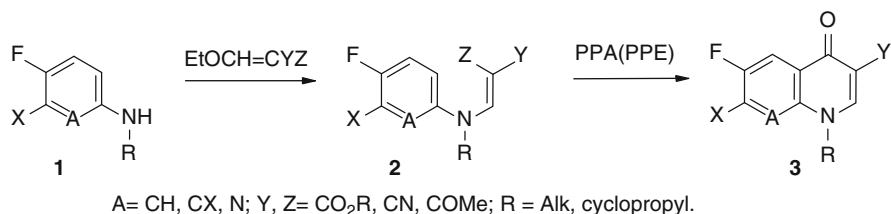
An important feature of fluoroquinolones is their selective biological action: suppressing bacterial DNA-gyrase, they don't influence the mammalian DNA cell processes. In fact, quinolones don't kill bacteria by inhibiting critical cellular processes, but rather break action of two essential enzymes, DNA-gyrase and topoisomerase IV, and use them by causing a rupture of two-spiral DNA.

During the last two decades the whole series of antibacterial fluoroquinolones have found their application in clinical practice, thus demonstrating a beginning of a new era in chemotherapy of bacterial infections. The vast majority of fluoroquinolones, launched into medical practice, are based on the bicyclic structure of 6-fluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydroquinolin-3-carboxylic acid. Annellation of the benzene ring, and carbo- or heterocyclic fragments to the quinolone skeleton usually allow one to enhance antibacterial activity of fused fluoroquinolones and their therapeutical properties; in some cases derivatives of this class become capable of exhibiting other types of activity, including antiviral and antineoplastic ones. The most known representatives of tricyclic fluoroquinolones appear to be ofloxacin and levofloxacin. For many years fluoroquinolones have been intensively studied worldwide as evidenced by numerous review articles and monographs [1–13].

2 Synthesis and Antibacterial Activity of Fluoroquinolones

2.1 Bicyclic Fluoroquinolones

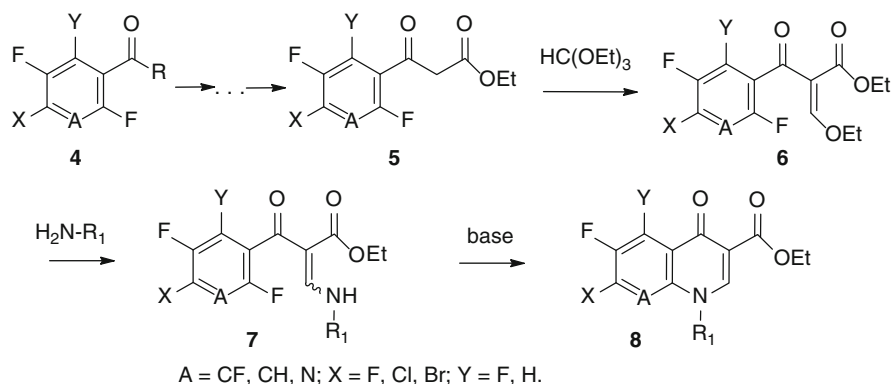
There are two basic approaches which are commonly used for the synthesis of quinolin-4-one-3-carboxylic acids [4, 14]. The first one is based on use of fluorinated anilines (**1**, A=CH, CF) or 2-aminopyridines (**1**, A=N) as starting materials and involves their condensation with ethoxymethylene derivative of malonate, cyanoacetate or acetoacetate to form enamines **2**. The intramolecular cyclization of compounds **2** with polyphosphoric acid (PPA) (the Gould-Jacobs reaction) affords the corresponding fluoroquinolones (**3**, A=CH, CF) or naphthyridones (**3**, A=N) (Scheme 2).



Scheme 2 Synthesis of fluoroquinolones from fluorinated anilines

One of the key problems of the Gould-Jacobs reaction is a choice of high-boiling solvent. Diphenyl ether which has been applied for a long time is not appropriate due to environmental reasons. A good alternative of Ph₂O seems to be a summer diesel fuel, which is cheaper than individual C₁₂-C₁₈ hydrocarbons, and allows one to carry out the process at 230–245 °C providing a good purity of the key intermediates in the synthesis of fluoroquinolones.

The second approach suggests use of fluorine-containing benzoyl derivatives (**4**, A=CF, CH) or their nicotinoyl analogs (**4**, A=N) as building-blocks (Scheme 3). The key intermediates in this case are benzoyl- or pyridinoyl acrylates **6** [6]. Cyclization of enamines **7** can be carried out by heating in DMF in the presence



Scheme 3 Synthesis of fluoroquinolones from fluorinated benzoyl derivatives

of potassium carbonate, or in ethyl acetate with NaH. Other basic conditions can also be applied, including organic amines or amidines, 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (DABCO) or 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU) [4, 15].

The method can be improved by use of the dimethylamino analogue of intermediate 7, which can be derived from the reaction of ethyl 3-dimethyl aminoacrylate with the corresponding fluorine-containing benzoyl chlorides followed by the displacement of the dimethylamino group with a suitable amine.

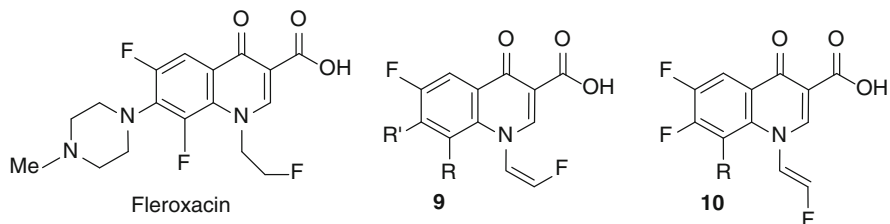
A great deal of research studies aimed at improvement of synthetic procedures leading to fluoroquinolones, enhancing their yields and quality of products, and reducing a number of steps and cost of the synthesis have been performed [16–31]. Improved synthetic procedures have been applied to obtain 1-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-(4-methylpiperazinyl)-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-3-quinolinecarboxylic acid and 1-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-(piperazinyl-1)-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-3-quinolinecarboxylic acid as well as their intermediates [18–21]. Further research studies on the synthesis of more active bicyclic fluoro-quinolones to expand a range of their biological activity, and to develop antibacterial drugs against resistant strains are in progress now.

2.1.1 Modification of the Position N(1)

The nitrogen atom N-1 and N-substituents are important features of the molecule of fluoroquinolones because of their considerable contribution into antibacterial activity. Replacement of the nitrogen atom with a carbon or oxygen in analogues of the oxolinic acid results in complete deactivation of these molecules. Modification of NH fluoroquinolones is usually based on N-alkylation reaction with the corresponding alkyl halide in the presence of a base. The first representatives of commercial fluoroquinolones bearing the ethyl group at N(1) are presented by norfloxacin, pefloxacin, and enoxacin; fleroxacin has N-fluoroethyl substituent, while amifloxacin contains the N-methylamino group. Research study on activity of the series of analogues of enoxacin, bearing C₁-C₅ aliphatic groups at N(1) have shown the preference of the N-ethyl group [32].

Modification of the N-ethyl group by means of incorporation of a fluorine atom (CH₂CH₂F, fleroxacin) appeared to be a reasonable approach [33]. Also

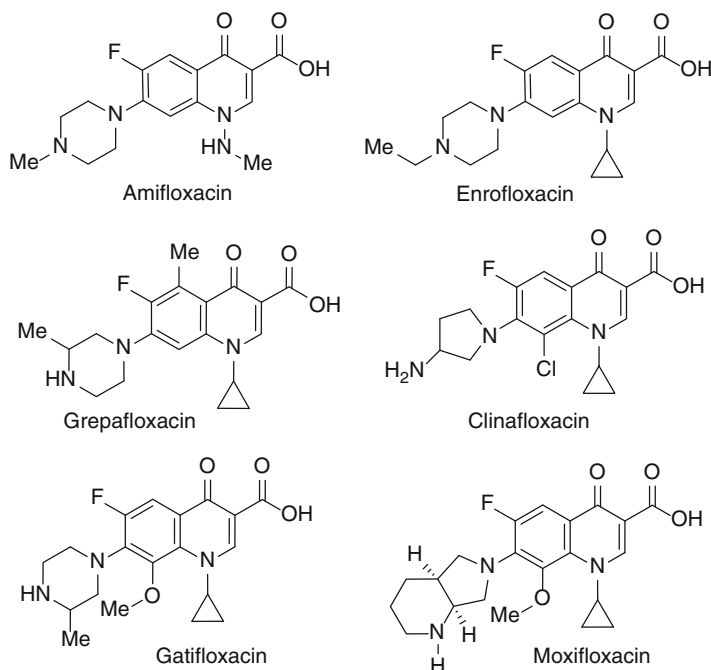
conformationally restricted analogs of fleroxacin **9** and **10** have been synthesized (Scheme 4). The *Z*-isomers proved to be 2–32-fold more potent *in vitro* against gram-positive strains of bacteria than the corresponding *E*-isomers [34].



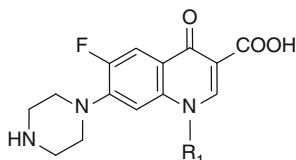
Scheme 4 Structure of fleroxacin and analogs

Replacement of N-ethyl group with NHCH_3 leads to a highly effective drug amifloxacin. Although it has not exhibited *in vitro* tests a considerable advantage in comparison with norfloxacin and pefloxacin, it shows a better pharmacokinetic profile, being equally active in both oral and parenteral administration.

It has been revealed that a high antibacterial activity of fluoroquinolones is associated with the presence of a small lipophilic group, such as, for instance, N-cyclopropyl substituent in position 1. Indeed, a number of commercially important fluoroquinolones bear the cyclopropyl fragment at N(1): ciprofloxacin, enrofloxacin, grepafloxacin, clinafloxacin, gatifloxacin, moxifloxacin (Scheme 5) [7].



Scheme 5 Structure of amifloxacin and 1-cyclopropyl-fluoroquinolones

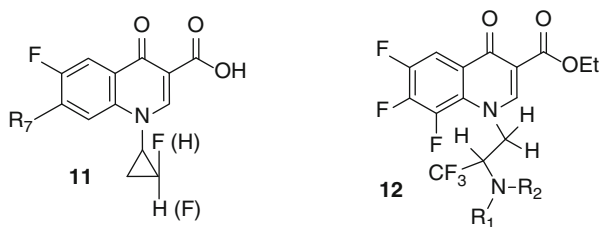
Table 1 Activity of N(1)-substituted fluoroquinolones (MIC, $\mu\text{g/ml}$)

R ₁	<i>St. aur.</i> A9537	<i>E. coli</i> A15119	<i>Ps. aer.</i> A 9843
Cyclopropyl (<i>ciprofloxacin</i>)	0.13	0.03	0.13
2-methylcyclopropyl (<i>trans</i>)	1	0.06	2
2-methylcyclopropyl (<i>cis</i>)	0.13	0.13	1
2,2-methylcyclopropyl	1	1	32
1-methylcyclopropyl	0.25	0.06	0.5
1-phenylcyclopropyl	0.13	0.13	4
Cyclobutyl	0.5	0.13	1

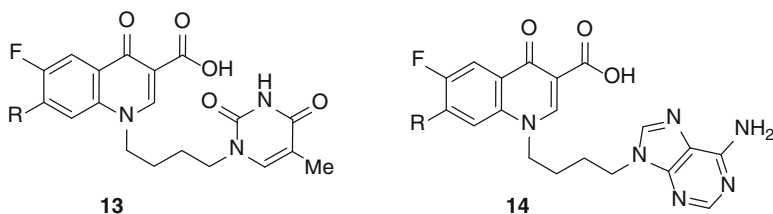
Incorporation of methyl or phenyl substituents in the cyclopropane ring, as well as the replacement of the cyclopropyl moiety with cyclobutyl or cyclopentyl ones diminishes the activity of these derivatives (Table 1) [7].

Further modification of the cyclopropyl fragment (for example, 2-fluorocyclopropyl derivatives **11**) gives rise to optically active isomers, which differ considerably in their activities, as illustrated by the fact that *cis*-analogs are more active against gram-positive strains of bacteria, than the corresponding *trans*-isomers, for example, *cis*-isomer of fluoroquinolone **11** (R₇=4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl) shows MIC 0,1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ against *St. aur.*, while *trans*-isomer has only 1,56 $\mu\text{g/ml}$. New synthetic approaches enabling one to introduce at N-1 of fluoroquinolones a fluorine-containing cyclopropyl fragment with a certain stereo-configuration have been developed [35, 36].

Incorporation of benzyl or *t*-butyl groups at N-1 enhances antibacterial activity of fluoroquinolones [37, 38]. Monofluoro-*t*-butyl derivatives proved to possess a higher antibacterial activity than their non-fluorinated analogs. An opportunity to use 1-trifluoromethyl-1,2-ethylenediamines for modification of position 1 of fluoroquinolones (compounds **12**) (Scheme 6) [39] has been shown.

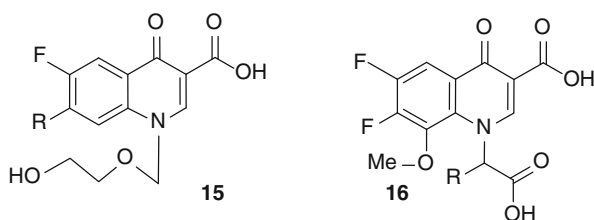
**Scheme 6** Structure of fluoroquinolones **11** and **12**

Derivatives of bicyclic pefloxacin **13** and **14** represent an interesting type of hybrid molecules, in which N-butylfluoroquinolone fragments are linked with the pyrimidine and purine heterocyclic bases (Scheme 7) [40].



Scheme 7 Structure of fluoroquinolones **13** and **14**

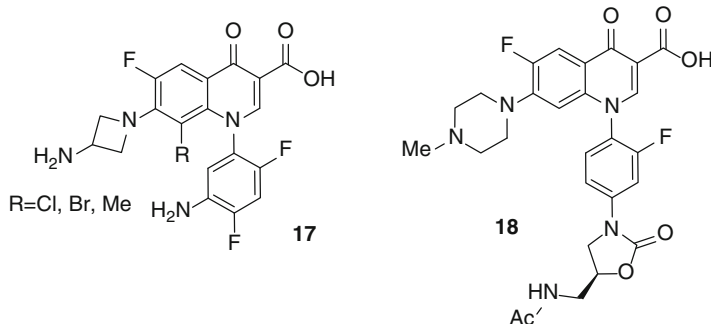
Fluoroquinolones **15** bearing the (hydroxyethoxy)methyl fragment, which is present in acyclovir, the known antiviral agent, can be regarded as acyclic analogs of nucleosides (Scheme 8) [41]. Also 5'-thioalkyl acyclic nucleosides of fluoroquinolones have been obtained by the reaction of mesylate **15** with methanethiolate- or thiophenolate anions [42].



Scheme 8 Structure of fluoroquinolones **15** and **16**

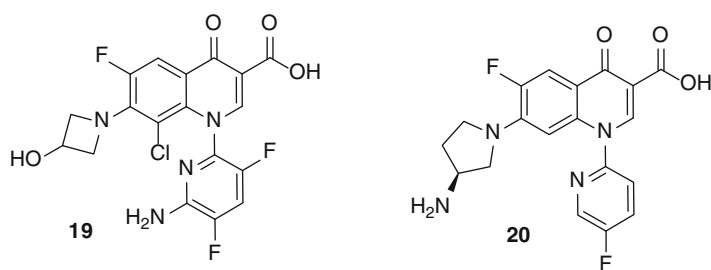
A series of new quinolones **16** bearing the fragments of natural amino acids have been synthesized. According to the data of preliminary biological studies these fluoroquinolones exhibit antibacterial activity against *Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus* [43].

Synthetic routes to new fluoroquinolones, containing in position 1 aryl substituent have also been described [44–46]. As a rule, a fluorophenyl substituent with one or two fluorine atoms has a favorable effect, increasing an activity of fluoroquinolones towards anaerobic bacteria. It has been found that 1-(5-amino-2,4-difluorophenyl)-8-R-substituted quinolones **17** possess a rather high antibacterial activity relative to Gram-positive and Gram-negative microorganisms (Scheme 9) [47]. 7-(Methylpiperazinyl)-6-fluoro-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,4-dihydro-4-oxo-3-quinolincarboxylic acids (difloxacin) has been established to be one of the most active fluoroquinolones in experiments *in vitro* against *Chlamydia trachomatis* and other intracellular parasites; also it demonstrates excellent pharmacokinetic properties. Also, the antibacterial drug linezolid **18** bearing at N-1 2-fluoro-(4-oxazolidon-1-yl)phenyl fragment has been developed [48] (Scheme 9). N-(5-Amino-2,4-difluorophenyl)-7-aminoazetidiny-8-chloro-substituted fluoroquinolone has been found to possess a high antibacterial activity relative to Gram-positive and Gram-negative microorganisms; its activity against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* proved to be 30-fold higher than that of trovafloxacin.



Scheme 9 Structure of fluoroquinolones **17** and **18**

A number of researches were dedicated to incorporating of heterocyclic fragments in position 1 of fluoroquinolones in expectation of enhanced activity [49]. Indeed, 1-(6-amino-3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl) substituted quinolone **19** (Scheme 10) proved to be rather promising for treatment of serious respiratory diseases and infections of the urinary tract. This fluoroquinolone has a wide range of antibacterial activity, including quinolone-sensitive and resistant staphylococcus and streptococcus, vancomycin-sensitive and resistant enterococcus, anaerobic bacteria and other infections [50], **20** was shown to be more active than ciprofloxacin [51] (Scheme 10).



Scheme 10 Structure of fluoroquinolones **19** and **20**

1-Trifluoromethylated fluoroquinolone shows antibacterial activity at the level of norfloxacin [52]. 1-Hydroxy-2-phenyl- and 1-hydroxy-2-methyl substituted quinolones have been obtained, however they have not shown a remarkable level of antibacterial activity [53, 54].

Analysis of the data of biological trials for N-substituted fluoroquinolones available in literature enables to conclude that compounds bearing in position 1 cyclopropyl, fluorophenyl or *t*-butyl fragments exhibit a higher level of antibacterial activity than their N-unsubstituted analogues.

2.1.2 Modification of the Position C(2)

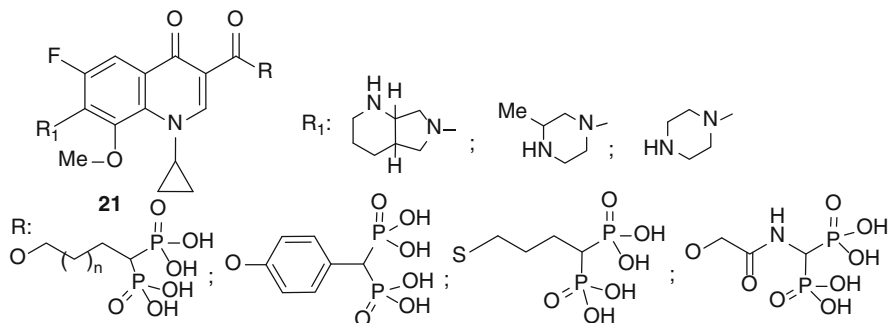
Modifications of the C(2)-position are limited due to synthetic difficulties associated with direct introduction substituents at C-2. However, the synthesis of 2-phenylsubstituted fluoroquinolones has been developed [55], and 6-fluoro-quinolon-2-carboxylic acids have been obtained by cyclization of the corresponding 2-amino-substituted 3-pentafluorobenzoyl acrylic acids [56]. 2-Thio substituted quinolones are widely used for the synthesis [*a*]- or [*b*]-annelated fluoroquinolones, such as thiazolo- and azethydinoquinolones [57–59]. Synthesis of 1-cyclopropyl-2-alkylthio-8-methoxyfluoroquinolones was described; however elucidation of their antibacterial activity revealed no regularities associated with incorporation of 2-alkylthio substituents [60]. All known 2-aza analogues of quinolones and naphthyridines, derivatives of cinnoline, have not exhibited any remarkable antibacterial activity.

2.1.3 Modification of the 3-Carboxyl Group

Modifications of the 3-carboxyl group appear to be worth only in those cases where these derivatives are considered as precursors of the corresponding carboxylic acids [61], however precursors not always exhibit activity *in vivo*. Replacement of the 3-carboxyl group with acyl, ethoxycarbonyl, methoxycarbonyl and other acidic fragments (hydroxamic, acetic, phosphonic, sulphinic or sulpho) results in complete loss or diminishes dramatically antibacterial activity of these compounds.

Functional properties of the carboxyl group have been used to modify it with osteophilic bisphosphonate fragments, as exemplified by structural modifications of moxi-, gati- and ciprofloxacin are developed [62]. Derivatives of these fluoroquinolones **21**, containing bisphosphonate ester, thioester or amide groups have been obtained (Scheme 11). Their abilities to contact bones and to recycle thus active medicinal component have been studied. It has been shown that bisphosphonate derivatives of fluoroquinolones are osteotropic predecessors for prevention of osteomyelitis.

Amides, hydrazides, and thiourea derivatives are important derivatives of fluoroquinolones [63–65]. It is worth noting that 7-chloroquinolones bearing



Scheme 11 Structure of fluoroquinolones **21**

the amide moiety at C-3 are rather active against *B. subtilis* and *S. aureus*. Also phenylthiourea derivatives proved to be more active against *B. subtilis* than the parent ciprofloxacin [64]. Synthesis of glycosylhydrazides and aminoacids on the basis of the corresponding hydrazido- and azido derivatives of 6-fluoroquinolin-4-one-3-carboxylic acids has been described [66].

Esters and hydrazides of 6-fluoroquinoline-4-oxo-3-carboxylic acids have been used for modification of the position 3 through the formation of heterocyclic fragments, such as oxadiazole, triazole, thiadiazole, benzofuroprazole, thiazolidine and others [67, 68]. Synthesis of fluoroquinolones containing in position 3 quinoxalinone, benzoxazinone and benzothiazinone fragments has recently been described [69, 70]. This synthesis was realized through interaction of fluoroquinolones bearing EtOC(O)C(O) residue with aromatic 1,2-binucleophiles. 3-Formyl- and acetyl derivatives of fluoroquinolones and also alcohols and amines have been obtained through transformation of amides [71].

It has been established that after oral administration of 3-formyl analogue of norfloxacin in mice the formyl group is metabolized rather fast into the carboxyl one, thus converting 3-formyl derivatives into norfloxacin. Due to a good solubility, a much higher level (at least two times) of the formyl derivative in blood serum can be reached, than on administration of norfloxacin, which at physiological pH values exists in the form of poor soluble zwitter-ionic form.

During the last two decades a lot of attention has been paid to development of “double mechanism” antibiotics. One of plausible approaches to such compounds is esterification of fluoroquinolone carboxylic acids with derivatives of cephalosporin and penicillin. Such combination allows one to expand a spectrum of antibacterial activity of beta-lactams conjugated with quinolones due to complementary mechanisms of their actions [7, 72].

Displacement of the carboxyl group in position 3 with hydrogen atom and the decarboxylation of fluoroquinolones have been discussed in the literature [73–76]. Since no decarboxylated fluoroquinolones have exhibited antibacterial activity, many authors have come to conclusion on the extremely importance of the 3-carboxy group.

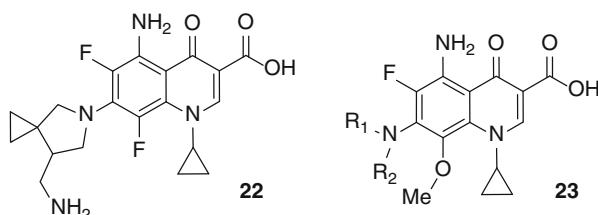
2.1.4 Modification of the 4-Oxo Group

The oxo group can be modified through the formation of oximes, hydrazones, and semicarbazones, as exemplified by transformations of norfloxacin and other fluoroquinolones [73]. Specific methods are needed to convert fluoroquinolones into their 4-alkoxy analogues, due to a preferable N-alkylation of fluoroquinolones at position 1. Another modification is the synthesis of 4*H*-1,4-benzothiazin-1-oxides and 1,1-dioxides [77] with various substituents in the benzene ring. However, these compounds proved to exhibit neither antibacterial activity, nor they inhibit DNA-gyrase. These results show that SO and SO₂ groups in quinolones cannot be regarded as bioisosters of the carbonyl group.

It has to be concluded that the oxo group at C(4) is necessary for linkage of quinolones with DNA-gyrase, and elimination or replacement of the oxo fragment with other moieties lead to inactive compounds.

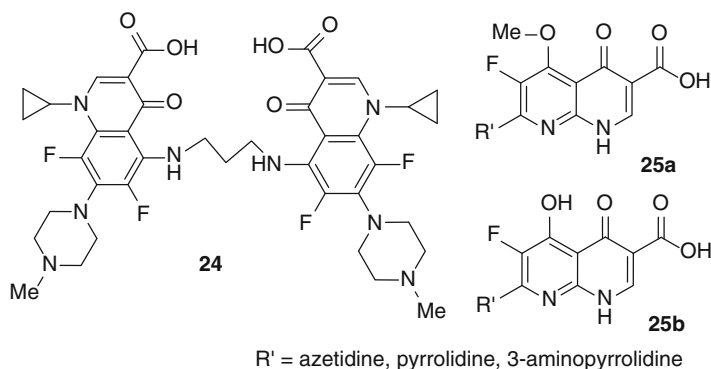
2.1.5 Modification of the Position C(5)

The most promising results have been received in those cases when the amino group was introduced at position 5 of fluoroquinolones. The detailed analysis of the “structure–activity” relationship for 5-substituted 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-quinolones has shown that the positive effects of NH₂ and CH₃ groups are approximately identical, and these fluoroquinolones possess a wide range and high level of antibacterial activity [7]. Indeed, 7-(7-aminomethyl-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptan-5-yl)quinolone **22** proved to be 12 times more active against *S. aureus* HPC527 than ciprofloxacin [78, 79]. The methoxy derivative **23**, and also its 8-methyl analogues show a high antibacterial activity towards a great deal of microorganisms [80] (Scheme 12). 5-Also acylaminoquinolones have been synthesized [81].

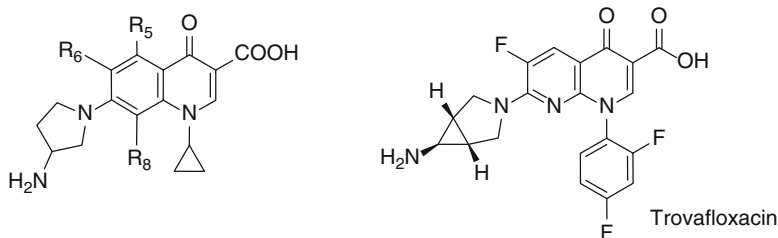


Scheme 12 Structure of 5-aminofluoroquinolones **22**, **23**

In order to obtain multi-binding therapeutic agents that modulate enzymatic processes, two fluoroquinolone ligands were linked at positions 5 through 1,3-diaminopropane bridge (compound **24**) [82]. Fluoroquinolones bearing the hydrazino group in position 5 appear to be effective antimicrobials towards a number of pathogenic microorganisms; also they possess a good solubility in water relative to other fluoroquinolones [83]. 5-Methoxy- and 5-hydroxy-6-fluoro-1,8-naphthyridin-4-oxo-3-carboxylic acids (**25a,b**) are more active against *S. pneumoniae* 7257 than levofloxacin [84] (Scheme 13).



Scheme 13 Structure of fluoroquinolones **24**, **25**

Table 2 Antibacterial activity of mono- and difluoroquinolones (MIC, $\mu\text{g/ml}$)

R ⁵	R ⁶	R ⁸	<i>St. aur.</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Ps. aer</i>
H	H	H	0.25	0.008	0.5
H	H	F	0.03	0.008	0.25
F	H	H	1	0.13	4
F	H	F	0.13	0.06	2
H	F	H	0.03	0.004	0.25
H	F	F	0.008	0.008	0.13

Incorporation of such substituents as Cl, Br, SH, SCH₃, CHO into position 5 of 1-cyclopropyl-6,8-difluoro-7-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-3-quinolincarboxylic acids didn't result in substantial increase of their activity. Some substituents at C(5) have a negative effect on antibacterial activity of fluoroquinolones which can possibly be explained by steric hindrance to interaction of the 4-oxo-3-carboxy-fragment of fluoroquinolone molecules with metal ions of the bacterial DNA-gyrase. However, a fluorine atom at C-5 with nearly the same space volume as a hydrogen one also diminishes the activity of fluoroquinolones, and it can't be connected with its steric effect.

2.1.6 Modification of the Position C(6)

Replacement of a fluorine atom in position 6 with other substituents didn't enhance their activity, at the same time it was shown that in order to obtain highly active antibacterial compounds the presence of fluorine atom at C(6) is not obligatory, it is more important to have in the quinolone skeleton the N(1)-cyclopropyl and C(7)-3-aminopyrrolidiny] pharmacophoric groups (Table 2) [85–88].

Studies of antibacterial activity of 6-fluoro-1-[(1*R*,2*S*)-2-fluorocyclopropan-1-yl]-8-methoxyquinolones and their C(6)-defluoro analogs showed that all of them are in 4–520 times more active against gram-positive bacteria, than trova-, moxi-, gati- or ciprofloxacin [89]. These quinolones have shown the indices of activity against Gram-negative bacteria *E. coli* and *K. pneumoniae* which are comparable with those of trova- and ciprofloxacin.

Incorporation of the nitrogen atom (derivatives of 1,6-naphthiridines) proved to diminish considerably the activity of quinolones.

2.1.7 Modification of the Position C(7)

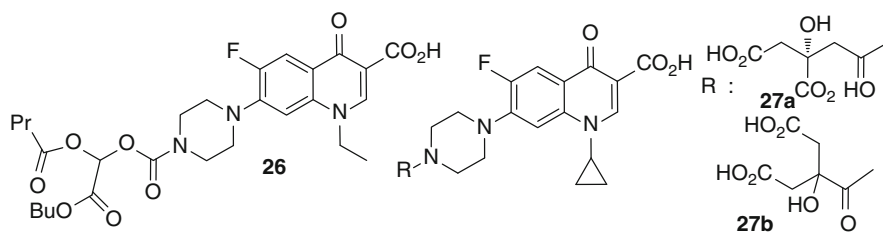
A great deal on the chemistry of 6-fluoroquinolones concerns modification of the position 7. It is due to the fact that a halogen atom at C(7) undergoes easily nucleophilic displacement with N-, S-, O- and C-nucleophiles, thus allowing one to vary the structure of quinolones. Nearly all commercially important fluoroquinolones contain at C-7 the fragments of cycloalkylimines [90–94].

Quinolones bearing in position 7 small or linear substituents, such as H, OH, OEt, COOH, Cl, Me, NH₂, NHR, NH-c-C₃H₅, NHNH₂, SCH₂CH₂NH₂ etc., have a relatively low activity against gram-positive microorganisms and are practically inactive towards the negative bacteria. Also 7-aza analogues of 6-fluoroquinolon-3-carboxylic acids, derivatives of 1,7-naphthyridines, didn't show any remarkable antibacterial activity.

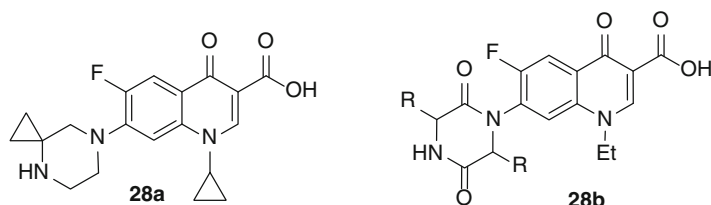
A lot of studies have been directed to the synthesis of fluoroquinolones, bearing a variety of piperazinyl substituents, since this part of quinolone molecule is of significant importance. Indeed, some representatives of 6-fluoroquinolones bearing at C(7) piperazine (norfloxacin, ciprofloxacin), 4-methylpiperazine (pefloxacin), 3-methylpiperazin (lomefloxacin, temafloxacin) proved to possess a much broader range of antibacterial activity, than those without the piperazine moiety, such as nalidixic and oxolinic acids.

In order to introduce the piperazine residue into position 7 of fluoroquinolones the reaction of 7-chloroquinolone with N-alkoxycarbonylpiperazine in high-boiling dipolar aprotic solvent followed by hydrolysis of alkoxycarbonyl group has been exploited. In some cases the borondiacetate complexes of fluoroquinolones have also been used for introduction of the piperazine fragment.

The difference in activity for *R*- and *S*-enantiomers of 7-(3-methylpiperazin-1-yl)quinolones, obtained from the corresponding (*R*)- and (*S*)-*t*-butyl-2-methylpiperazin-1-carboxylates, proved to be in the range from 2 to 64 folds in 52 % of cases [95]. In order to improve transport through biological membranes the piperazine moiety in norfloxacin was modified considerably and compound **26** was obtained [96]. To clarify the mechanism of antibacterial action of fluoroquinolones at the cellular level, two regioisomeric citrate-functionalized derivatives of ciprofloxacin **27a,b** [97] (Scheme 14) have been obtained and studied.



Scheme 14 Structure of fluoroquinolones **26**, **27**

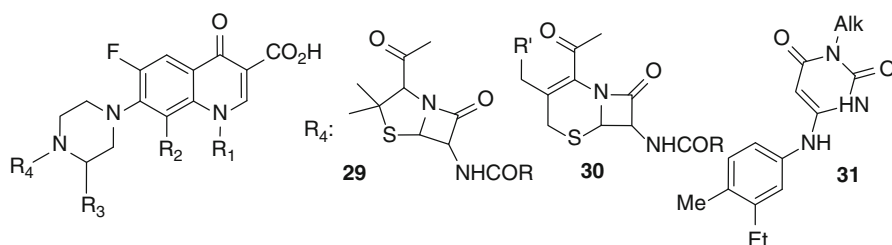


Scheme 15 Structure of fluoroquinolones **28**

Introduction of spiro piperazine or piperazinedione groups in position 7 of 1-cyclopropyl substituted fluoroquinolones has been shown to enhance their antimicrobial activity (compounds **28a,b**) (Scheme 15) [98, 99].

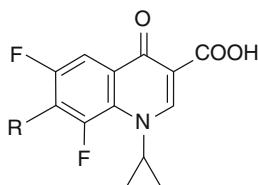
Also the piperazine fragment of fluoroquinolones was modified by introduction of a number of heterocyclic fragments, such as 2,6-diaminopyrimidinyl, 4,6-diamino-1,3,5-triazinyl, 2-aminothiazinyl, 1,3,4-thiadiazolyl, 2-furyl and other groups, thus allowing one to obtain more active antibacterial drugs [100–103].

Hybrid derivatives of fluoroquinolones bearing fragments of penicillin and cephalosporin antibiotics or uracils, for example compounds **29–31**, proved to possess a wide spectrum and high level of antibacterial activity, including their potency against resistant to β -lactams strains [74, 104–107] (Scheme 16). High antibacterial activity has also been shown by 7-(N-aryl-2,2,2-trifluoroacetimidoyl)piperazinyl derivatives of fluoroquinolones [108].



Scheme 16 Structure of fluoroquinolones **29–31**

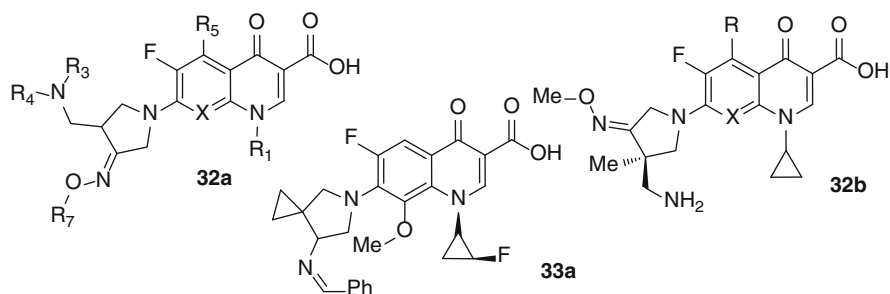
Influence of the second heteroatom in the piperazine ring is not so unequivocal. For instance, the replacement N(4) in the piperazine moiety of amifloxacin with O, S or CH₂ fragments has been shown to diminish activity of these compounds *in vitro* and *in vivo*, however when the piperazine residue in norfloxacin was replaced with thiomorpholine a much more potent compound against Gram-positive bacteria has been obtained. 7-(3-Aminomorpholin-1-yl) and 7-[3-(or 4)-aminomethylpiperidin-1-yl]-derivatives proved also to possess a high activity against *St. aur.* (Table 3). 7-Azetidinyl substituted fluoroquinolones, in particular *trans*-3-amino-2-methyl-1-azetidiny derivatives proved to be highly active antibacterial compounds [84, 109, 110].

Table 3 Antibacterial activity of 7-substituted fluoroquinolones (MIC, µg/ml)

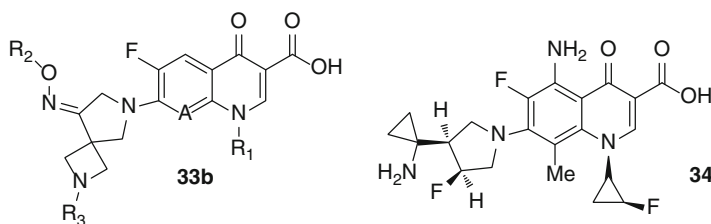
R	<i>St.aur.</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Ps.aer.</i>
Piperazin-1-yl	0.10	0.006	0.10
Piperidin-1-yl	0.78	3.13	50
Morpholin-1-yl	0.025	0.10	0.78
3-Aminomorpholin-1-yl	0.025	0.10	0.78
3-Methylaminomorpholin-1-yl	0.025	0.10	3.13
3-Acetylaminomorpholin-1-yl	0.20	1.56	12.5

A large group of highly active fluoroquinolones contains the pyrrolidine fragment in position 7, and, therefore, a considerable attention has been paid to the synthesis of 6-fluoro-7-pyrrolidinoquinolones with 3-amino-, 3-aminomethyl- or 3-(2-cyanomethylamino) substituents in the pyrrolidine ring [111–114]. As a rule, the compounds of this series possess a much higher activity towards Gram-positive microorganisms than the corresponding piperazine derivatives.

Fluoroquinolones **32a**, containing alkyloximino substituent at C-4 and the aminomethyl fragment at position 3 of the pyrrolidine ring, exhibit a high antibacterial activity towards Gram-positive and Gram-negative microorganisms, including a methicillin-resistant strain of *S. aureus* (MRSA) [115–118]. Compounds **32b** having an optically active center in the pyrrolidine ring and the methyloximino group proved to possess not only high antibacterial activity, but also a good pharmacokinetic profile [119, 120]. Also, the series of fluoroquinolones, containing spiropyrrolidine substituents at C-7, for example, compound **33a**, have been obtained (Scheme 17) [121, 122].

**Scheme 17** Structure of fluoroquinolones **32**, **33a**

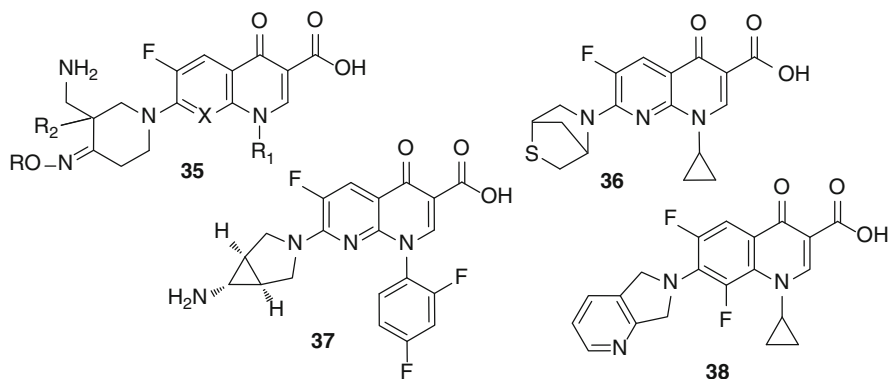
Effects of the chiral fragments, such as 1-(*cis*-2-fluorocyclopropyl) and 7-(7-amino-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptyl) substituents (compounds **32b**, **33a**) on antibacterial properties of the series of fluoroquinolones have been studied (Scheme 18) [123]. It has been shown that derivatives of 1-[(*1R,2S*)-2-fluorocyclopropyl]- and 7-[(*7S*)-amino-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptyl]-fluoroquinolones are more active towards a number of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, than other stereoisomers. The presence of spiropyrrolidine residue at C(7) of fluoroquinolones enhances their lipophilic properties, thus promoting a better assimilation on oral administration [98].



Scheme 18 Structure of fluoroquinolones **33b**, **34**

Compounds **33b**, **34** with the amino group attached to the spiropyrrolidine or cyclopropyl-substituted pyrrolidine fragment proved to exhibit broad spectrum of antibacterial activity (Scheme 18) [124–129]. Aminomethyl substituted pyrrolidines and their heterocyclic derivatives were incorporated into position 7 of fluoroquinolone [130–132]. Optically active derivatives of 7-(3-hydroxypyrrolidin-1-yl)-6-fluoroquinolones have been shown to be promising antibacterials [133–135].

One more residue which is frequently present in position 7 of active fluoroquinolones is piperidine [136–139]. Indeed, 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-quinolones, containing (*3S*)-amino-(*4R*)-piperidinyl fragment in position 7, show a high activity towards resistant strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* [140]. A number of substituents, such as 4-amino, 4-hydroxy, 3-aminomethyl, 4-aminomethyl and 3-methylamino were incorporated in the piperidinyl fragment [141, 142]. Novel 6-fluoroquinolones and naphthyridines with 4 (3)-alkoxyimino-3-aminomethyl-3-H(methyl)piperidinyl substituents, for instance **35**, have been obtained (Scheme 19) [143–145]. They shown a high activity against all gram-positive organisms, including those resistant to fluoroquinolones. One of compounds of this series proved to be in 16–128, 2–32 and 4–8 times more active against fluoroquinolone-resistant MSSA, MRSA and MRSE than gemi-, cipro- and levofloxacin, respectively. Introduction of 4-(*1H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)piperidinyl residue in the structure of fluoroquinolone resulted in a good activity against *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* [146].

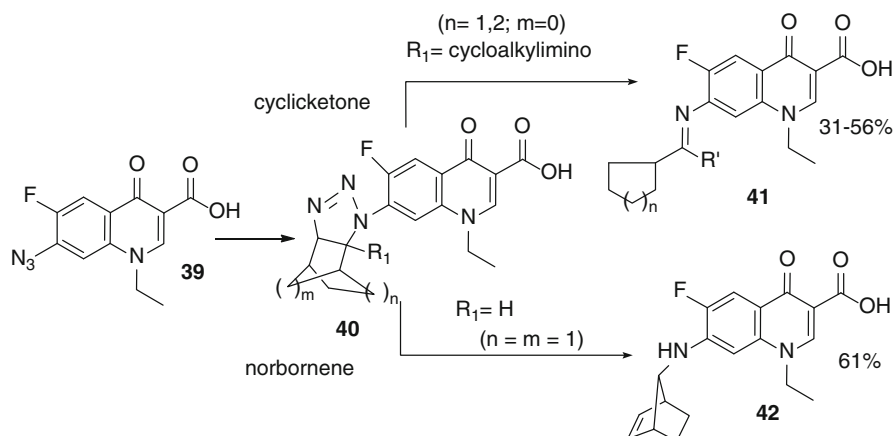


Scheme 19 Structure of fluoroquinolones **35–38**

A very promising modification of fluoroquinolones is introduction of bridged cyclic amines in position 7 [147–153]. A series new fluoroquinolones **36** was synthesized (Scheme 19), and one of compounds showed high activity against quinolone-sensitive and multi-resistant bacteria, especially towards *Streptococcus pneumonia* [154].

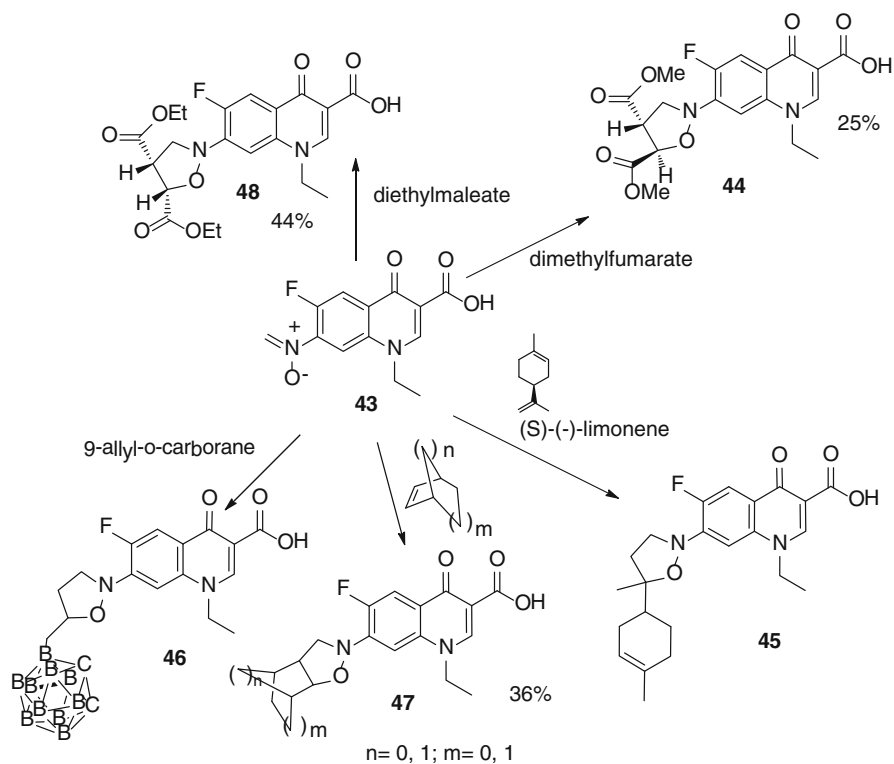
Trovafloxacin **37**, the very active compound with a wide spectrum of action, contains 7-(1 α , 5 α , 6 α)-3-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexyl substituent (Scheme 19) [155, 156]. 6-Fluoro-1-[(1*R*, 2*S*)-2-fluorocyclopropan-1-yl]-4-oxoquinolin-3-carboxylic acids, containing in position 7 2-amino-8-azabicyclo[4.3.0]nonan-8-yl fragment have been shown to inhibit bacterial DNA topoisomerase IV very effectively [157]. A great deal of research are dedicated to the synthesis and biological tests of 7-di- and triazabicyclononyl substituted 6,8-difluoroquinolones, for instance **38** (Scheme 19) [158–163].

An effective way for introduction of a variety of heterocyclic fragments in the position 7 of the fluoroquinolone skeleton is the methodology of 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions [164–167]. Indeed, the reaction of 7-azido derivative of 6-fluoroquinolone **39** with enamines of cyclic ketones and norbornene proceeds rather smoothly with the formation of the corresponding *exo*-1,2,3-triazolines **40** which undergo the cationic rearrangements into amidines **41** or aminonorbornane **42** [164, 165]. 7-Azido derivatives **39** are capable of reacting with heterocyclic amines to form new 7- fluoroquinolones (Scheme 20) [168].



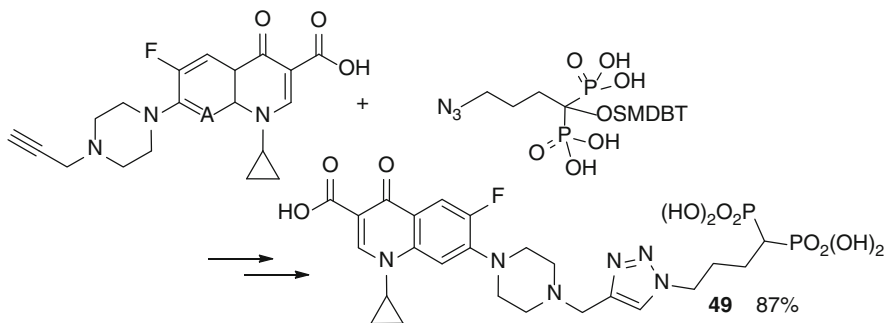
Scheme 20 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition reactions of 7-azido derivative **39**

The cycloaddition reaction of azomethine **43** with alkenes proceeds in regio- and stereoselective manner and represents a convenient way to obtain a variety of stereoisomeric 7-isoxazolidinyl quinolones **44–48** [166, 167] (Scheme 21).



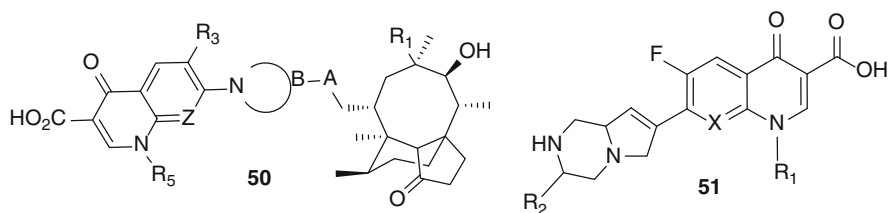
Scheme 21 The cycloaddition reactions of azomethine **43**

Synthesis of new hydroxybisphosphonate derivatives of ciprofloxacin **49** has been performed by using Cu-catalyzed 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction between the corresponding azide and N-alkynyl substituted quinolone [169] (Scheme 22). Derivatives of gati- and moxifloxacin have been obtained similarly. All of these modified compounds maintained antibacterial activity of the starting quinolones and, in addition to that, exhibit osteotropic properties.



Scheme 22 Synthesis of fluoroquinolone **49**

A number of 6-fluoroquinoline- and 6-fluoronaphthyridine-3-carboxylic acids, containing at C(7) rather complicated fragment of multiline (compounds **50**) have been synthesized (Scheme 23) [170]. Quinolones **50** exhibit a high activity against resistant bacteria, in particular, methicillin- and quinolone-resistant *Staphylococcus*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, etc.



Scheme 23 Structure of fluoroquinolones **50**, **51**

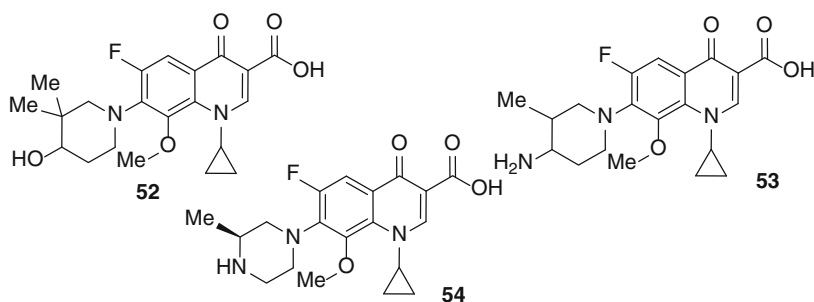
Synthesis on the basis of organoelement compounds play an important role for modification of position 7 in fluoroquinolones [171]. As mentioned above, fluoroquinolones, containing hetaryl residues in position 7 are promising for medicinal chemistry [172]. In particular, a number of highly active fluoroquinolones have been obtained on the basis of 7-nitromethyl derivatives [173, 174].

The 7-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]pyrazin-7-yl) fragment has been incorporated in the structure of quinoline and naphthiridine carboxylic acids **51** through the carbon-carbon bond formation by reacting 7-halogeno or tosyl-substituted quinolones with the corresponding borates (Scheme 23) [175]. It should be noted that several compounds of this series have exhibited a high activity against ciprofloxacin-resistant bacteria of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.

Thus, varying substituents in position 7 provides a good platform for development of novel antibacterial drugs. New opportunities for modification of position 7 are associated with design of hybrid molecules, as illustrated, for instance, by the development of the double action drugs containing both a fluoroquinolone and β -lactam antibiotic fragments.

2.1.8 Modification of Position C(8)

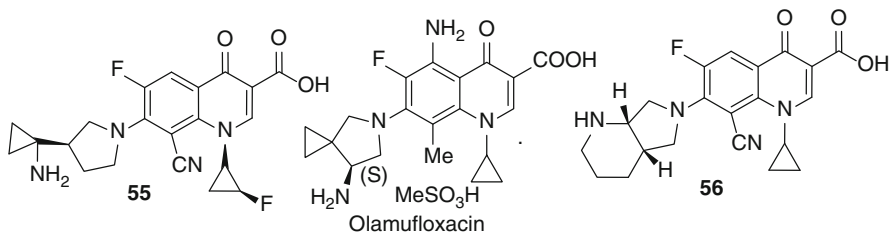
The nature of substituents in position 8 of fluoroquinolones also makes a certain impact on antibacterial activity. The key role of the 8-methoxy substituent is demonstrated by the fact that this fragment is a part of such effective drugs, as moxifloxacin and gatifloxacin [176–180]. Indeed, fluoroquinolone **52** shows a high activity against *H. influenzae* and *M. catarrhalis* [181], while compound **53** is 4 times more active against *S. pneumoniae* than levofloxacin [182, 183]. 8-Methoxy-6-fluoroquinolone **54** has smaller side effects on the cardio-vascular system, than gatifloxacin (Scheme 24) [184].



Scheme 24 Structure of fluoroquinolones **52–54**

Fluoroquinolones, containing 8-methyl substituent usually demonstrate a high antibacterial activity, e.g. olamufloxacin is of great importance for treatment of urological diseases [185–188]. Also the cyano group in position 8 proved to be an appropriate substituent, as illustrated by the synthesis of 8-cyanoquinolones **55** and **56** [189] (Scheme 25). Indeed, compound **55** has been shown to possess a high antibacterial activity towards Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria [193], while 8-cyanoquinolone **56**, containing the diazobicyclononane residue in position 7 is more active antibacterial compound than enrofloxacin (Scheme 25) [190].

Substituents NO₂, NH₂, SCH₃, CF₃ in position 8 have usually a negative impact on both *in vitro* and *in vivo* activities, especially towards Gram-negative microorganisms.

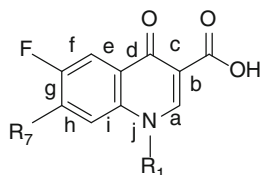


Scheme 25 Structure of olamufloxacin and fluoroquinolones **55**, **56**

In order to obtain “structure-biological activity” relationships mathematic methods have been used [191–193]. Quantitative correlations between molecular structure and pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic characteristics of fluoroquinolones in combination with informative hemometric approach have been used to forecast anti-pneumococcus activity [194]. Elucidation of the structure – activity relationships in the series of fluoroquinolones is the subject of numerous publications [195–197]. Dependence of antibacterial activity on the nature of substituents has been established for several series of bicyclic fluoroquinolones [11, 198–200].

2.2 Polycyclic Fluoroquinolones

Modification of fluoroquinolones by annelation of carbo- or heterocyclic rings leads to fused polycyclic systems (Scheme 26).

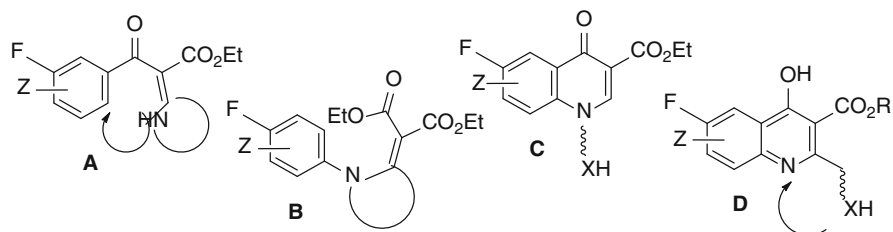


Scheme 26 Possible locations of additional rings in polycyclic fluoroquinolones

2.2.1 [a]-Annelated Fluoroquinolones

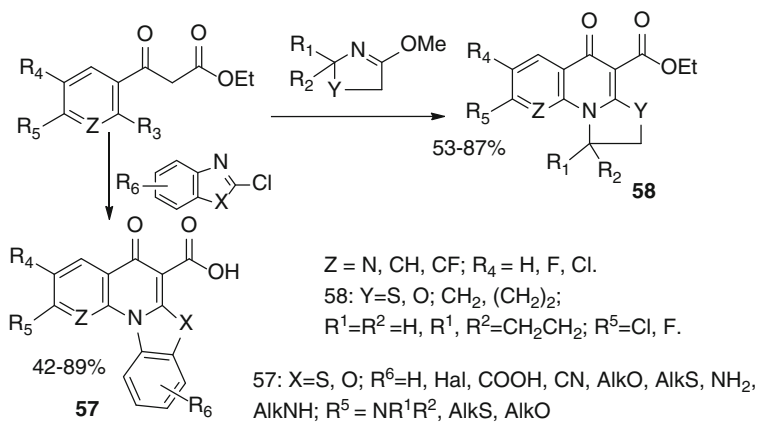
There are two principal approaches to the synthesis of [a]-annelated fluoroquinolones. The first one suggests that an [a]-annelated ring is already involved in the structure of intermediates, such as aminoacrylates A or malonates B, followed

by their cyclization into the corresponding fluoroquinolones. The second approach is based on use of 1- or 2-substituted quinolones C or D, which undergo intramolecular [a]-fusion (Scheme 27) [10].



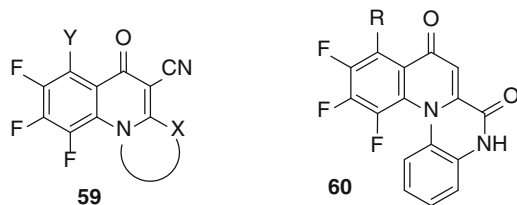
Scheme 27 Approaches to the synthesis of [a]-annelated fluoroquinolones

The first approach has been used to obtain [a]-annelated fluoroquinolones **57** and **58** from the correspondingly substituted ethyl acetates and 2-chlorobenzazoles or iminoesters (Scheme 28). 7-(1-Piperazinyl)- and 7-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)-benzothiazolo-[3,2-a]quinolones **57** have been established to exhibit rather good activity against a number of bacteria [201].



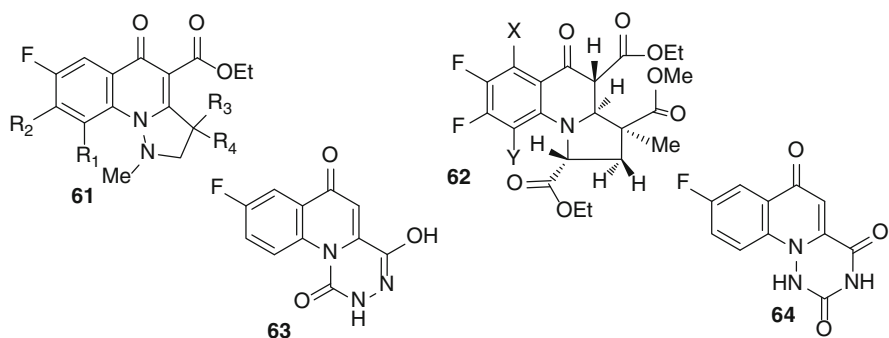
Scheme 28 Synthesis of azolo[a]quinolones

Synthetic routes to [a]-fused quinolones of general formula **59** from the corresponding polyfluorobenzoyl chlorides and α -azahetaryl acetonitriles have been developed [202]. Heterocyclization of quinoxalones, containing polyfluoroaroyl fragment in position 3 in DMSO in the presence of triethylamine affords **60** (Scheme 29) [203].



Scheme 29 Structure of fluoroquinolones **59**, **60**

The [a]-annulation in which the starting material is N-methylaminoquinolone has been described [204, 205]. Use of the 1,4-addition to the activated multiple bonds followed by the Michael intramolecular reaction leads to tetrahydropyrazolo[1,5-a]quinolones **61**, which are oxidized into the corresponding pyrazolo[1,5-a]quinolones. Hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinolones **62** can be regarded as [3+2] adducts derived from the reactions of N-(ethoxycarbonyl)methyl substituted ethyl esters of di-, three- and tetrafluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydroquinolin-3-carboxylic acids with methylmetacrylate (Scheme 30) [206].

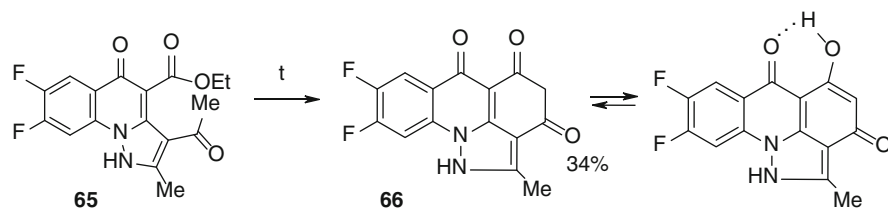


Scheme 30 Structure of fluoroquinolones **61–64**

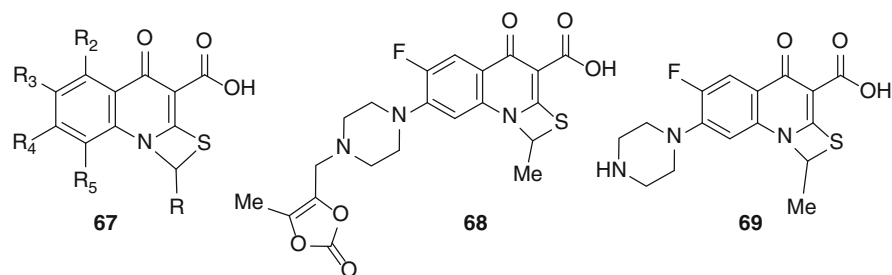
Derivative of [1, 2, 4]triazino[1,6-a]quinoline **63** has been obtained from methyl 6-fluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-2-quinolinecarboxylate through the N-amination followed by condensation of the corresponding aryl isocyanate and cyclization of the obtained α -semicarbazidocarboxylate [207]. 8-Fluoro-4-hydroxy-1*H*-[1,2,4]-triazino[4,5-*a*]-quinolin-1,6(2*H*)-dione **64** has been obtained by condensation of 6-fluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-2-quinolinecarbohydrazide by action of phosgene [208]. 8-Fluoro-1,2-dihydro[1,4]oxazino[4,3-*a*]quinolin-4,6-dione was derived from intramolecular cyclization of 2-chloroethyl 6-fluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-2-quinolinecarboxylate [209]. New tetracyclic system containing fluoroquinolone fragment **66** was obtained by intramolecular condensation of ethyl 3-acetyl-5-oxopyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinolin-4-carboxylate **65** on heating [210] (Scheme 31).

Table 4 Activity of **67** (R=Me, R²=R⁵=H, R³=F), MIC, µg/ml

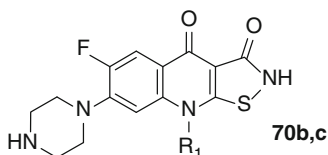
R ⁴	<i>St. aur.</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Ps. aer.</i>
Piperazinyl	0.05	0.0125	0.2
4-Methylpiperazinyl	0.1	0.025	0.39
Morpholinyl	0.1	0.1	0.39
Thiomorpholinyl	0.025	0.2	0.39

**Scheme 31** Synthesis of tetracyclic fluoroquinolone **66**

2-Mercapto-6-fluoroquinolin-3-carboxylic acids are considered as important intermediates in schemes leading to [a]-annelated fluoroquinolones, as shown by the synthesis of a number of thiazeto[a]quinolones **67** possessing a high level of antibacterial activity (Table 4) [211–213]. For instance, modification of position 7 of thiazeto[3,2-a]quinolones results in the formation of highly effective tricyclic antibacterials, such as prulifloxacin **68**, which is metabolized in organisms into ulifloxacin **69** (Scheme 32) [214–217]. It is worth noting that decarboxylation of ulifloxacin drops down the antibacterial activity in 60–12,000 times. A similar phenomenon has been observed in case of cipro- and moxifloxacin [60], thus showing an extremely important role of the carboxyl group. The synthesis of thiazolo[3,2-a]-, [1,3]benzothiazino[3,2-a]- and [1,3]benzothiazino[1,2-a]quinolin-6-carboxylic acids has also been reported [218, 219].

**Scheme 32** Structure of thiazeto[a]quinolones **67–69**

It should be noted that [a]-annulation of additional rings through the reactions of 1- or 2-substituted fluoroquinolones has certain restrictions, while cyclocondensation of fluorinated benzoyl chlorides with C,N-bifunctional nucleophiles appears

Table 5 Antibacterial activity of [b]-annelated fluoroquinolones (MIC, µg/ml)

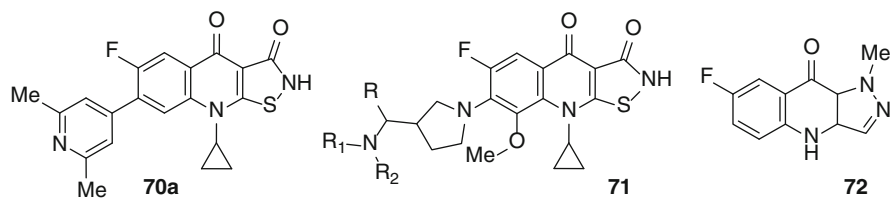
Compound	<i>St. aur.</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Ps. aer.</i>
70b (R ¹ =ethyl)	0.02	0.005	0.05
Norfloxacin	0.20	0.01	0.1
70c (R ¹ =cyclopropyl)	0.1	0.1	0.20
Ciprofloxacin	0.78	0.1	0.39

to be a more common method for the synthesis of a broad range of [a]-annelated fluoroquinolones. Incorporation of original bicyclic amines at position 7, as well as the synthesis of new derivatives through reactions of the carboxyl group are the main directions for modification of [a]-annelated fluoroquinolones.

2.2.2 [b]-Annelated Fluoroquinolones

The thesis concerning necessity of the carboxyl group in position 3 of fluoroquinolones to provide their antibacterial properties is not in agreement with the data on activity of [b]-annelated isothiazolo-, pyrido-, pyrimido- and pyrazinoquinolones which stimulated research studies of this group of compounds [7]. Indeed, a whole number of oxoisothiazolo[5,4-*b*]quinolones possessing a high antibacterial activity (Table 5), for instance compound **70a** and its analogues, have been obtained [220–224]. Also 9-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-8-methoxy-7-(2-methylpyridin-4-yl)-9*H*-isothiazolo[5,4-*b*]quinolin-3,4-dione has shown a high activity *in vitro* against methicillin-sensitive strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), high level of inhibiting of DNA-gyrase and topoisomerase IV of *S. aureus*, in combination with a neglectable effect on human topoisomerase II and low cytotoxicity [225, 226]. A series of 7-(3'-substituted) pyrrolidiny-8-methoxyisothiazolo[*b*]quinolones **71** has been obtained and their antibacterial activity towards methicillin-sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus* (MSSA), methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Escherichia coli*, including stereochemical aspects and influence of substituents, has been elucidated [226].

The synthesis of 1-methyl-1,4-dihydro-9*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*b*]quinoline-9-one **72**, inhibitor of protein kinase C, has been performed by means of cyclization of 4-[(4-fluorophenyl)amino]-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-carboxylic acid (Scheme 33) [227]. The main trends in development of research studies in the field of [b]-annelated fluoroquinolones are dealt with use of these compounds for the synthesis of novel [*i,j*]-annelated systems, a varying of substituents at C-7, and also with obtaining of new 2-substituted fluoroquinolones.



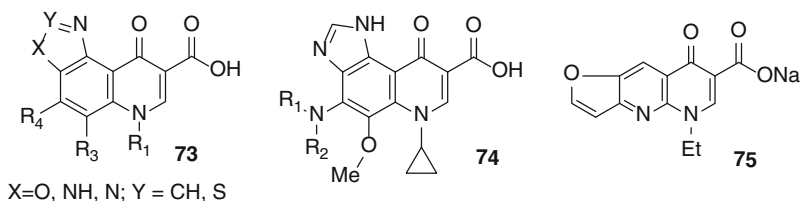
Scheme 33 Structure of [b]-annulated quinolones **70a-72**

2.2.3 [c]- and [d,e]-Annulated Fluoroquinolones

The targeted synthesis of these types of fused fluoroquinolones has never been carried out, since the oxo-group in position 4 which is responsible for linkage of fluoroquinolones with DNA gyrase has to be eliminated [7].

2.2.4 [f]- and [g]-Annulated Fluoroquinolones

Both [f], and [g]-annulation results in loss of fluorine atom in position 6 the presence of which has long been associated with a high level of antibacterial activity of fluoroquinolones. However, a number of highly active compounds have been revealed in the series of oxazo-, thiazolo- and imidazo[4,5-f] fused fluoroquinolones. For instance, derivative **73** ($R^3=R^4=F$) has shown a good activity against both Gram-positive, and Gram-negative bacteria [228]. According to *in vitro* biological tests 5-methoxyimidazo[4,5-f]quinolones **74** exceeds in activity the corresponding analogs of ofloxacin [229]. Furonaphthyridine **75** has found application as the basis to obtain antibacterials (Scheme 34) [230].



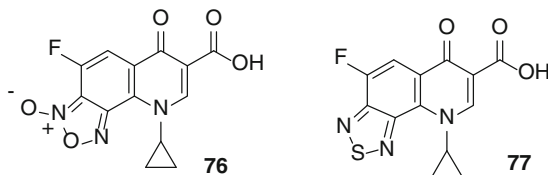
Scheme 34 Structure of [f]-and [g]-annulated fluoroquinolones **73-75**

2.2.5 [h]-Annulated Fluoroquinolones

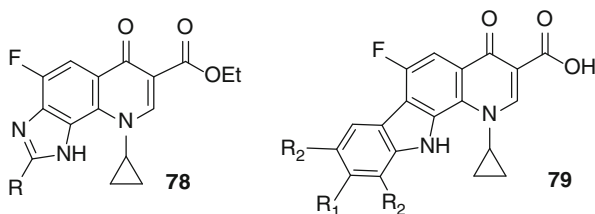
6-Oxo-6,9-dihydro[1,2,5]oxadiazolo[3,2-h]quinolin-7-carboxylic acid **76** was synthesized from 7-azido-8-nitroquinolone [231]. A convenient method for the synthesis of 6-oxothiazolo[3,4-h]quinolin-7-carboxylic acids **77** has been suggested (Scheme 35) [232]. The structure of compounds **76** and **77** has been confirmed by X-ray crystallography. Biological tests of fluoroquinolone **77** have revealed that this compound possesses a high activity against Gram-positive *bacilli* and *staphylococci*, including methicillin-resistant strains, as well as Gram-negative bacteria (Table 6).

Table 6 Activity of **77** (MIC, $\mu\text{g/ml}$)

Compound	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> ATCC 6633	Methicillin-resistant <i>S. aureus</i>	<i>E. coli</i> ATCC8739
Ciprofloxacin	0.15	0.03	0.7	0.015
77	0.15	0.07	1.5	0.7

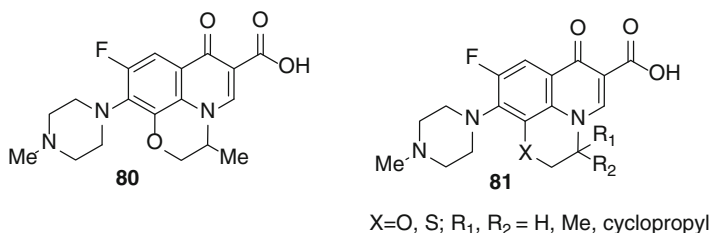
**Scheme 35** Structure of $[h]$ -annelated fluoroquinolones **76**, **77**

A series of ethyl 2-R(Ar)-9-cyclopropyl-4-fluoro-6-oxo-1H-imidazo[4,5-*h*]quinoline-7-carboxylates **78** have been obtained through cyclocondensations of the corresponding 7,8-diamino quinolones [233]. Also a number of tetracyclic $[h]$ -annelated fluoroquinolones, such as 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydropyrido[2,3-*a*]carbazole-3-carboxylic acids **79** and their thiene isomers have been obtained (Scheme 36) [198]. All derivatives proved to possess a high activity against *Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococci*.

**Scheme 36** Structure of $[h]$ -annelated fluoroquinolones **78**, **79**

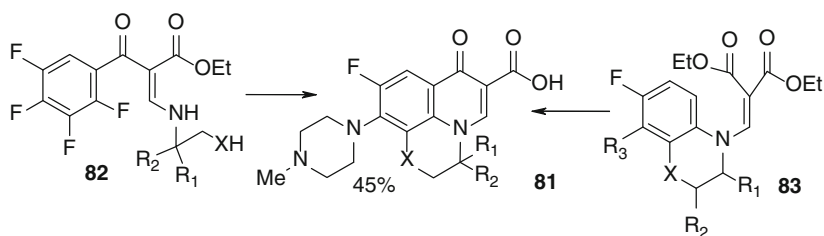
2.2.6 $[i,j]$ -Annelated Fluoroquinolones

The most known representatives of tricyclic $[i,j]$ -annelated fluoroquinolones are **ofloxacin 80** and its analogues **81** (Scheme 37) [234]. Ofloxacin is well-known to clinical physicians, since more than 15 years it has been applied in medical practice. Ofloxacin has produced in two ready forms, peroral and injective ones, and both of them are characterized by a high clinical efficiency, wide range of indications for treatment, relative stability of the ofloxacin molecule in the process of bio-transformations in organism, and a low interference with drugs of other pharmacological groups. The oxygen atom in the oxazine ring is supposed to be an important element of the structure, thus providing an optimal antibacterial effect of this compound. Ofloxacin represents a racemic mixture of the right- and left-rotating optical isomers. The left-rotating enantiomer, levofloxacin, which proved to be much more active than its stereo analogue against nearly all bacteria, had been launched into medicinal practice in 1997. Inhibition of *E. coli* DNA gyrase by levofloxacin (I_{50} 2,50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) was shown to surpass inhibition of the same enzyme by ofloxacin (I_{50} 6,20 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) [235].



Scheme 37 Structure tricyclic [*i,j*]-annulated fluoroquinolones

The starting materials **82** for the synthesis of ofloxacin and its analogues have been obtained by interacting ethyl 2-(tetrafluorobenzoyl)-3-ethoxy acrylates with 2-aminopropanol [236]. It is clear that use of optically active *S*-(-)-2-aminopropanol enables one to obtain levofloxacin [237–241]. Another approach to fluoroquinolones **81** is cyclization of compounds **83**, derived from condensation of the corresponding benzoxa(thia)zines with diethylethoxy methylenemalonate (Scheme 38). In this way the synthesis of levofloxacin has been realized from the (*S*)-isomer of 7,8-difluoro-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-4H[1, 4]benzoxazine [242].

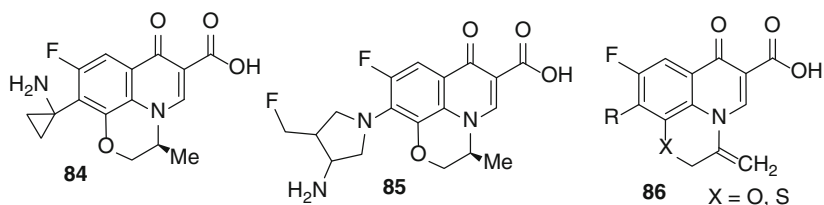


Scheme 38 Synthesis of fluoroquinolones **81**

During the last two decades the synthesis of levofloxacin and its *S*-(-)-precursors has been improved considerably, and new approaches have been advanced [243–255]. In particular, kinetic resolution of 7,8-difluoro-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-4H-[1,4]-benzoxazine racemate using naproxen, *N*-[sulphonylsubstituted]-(*R*)-proline and (*2S*)-(6-methoxynaph-2-yl)propionyl chloride, has been advanced [256–261]. The optically active (*S*)-isomer obtained by this method has been used for the synthesis of levofloxacin (*S*)-(-)-**80** [256]. Also a new synthetic approach to (*S*)-isomer through catalytic reduction of 7,8-difluoro-3-methyl-2*H*-1,4-benzoxazine with use of chiral Bronsted acids as catalyst and substituted dihydropyridine as a source of hydrogen has been described [262].

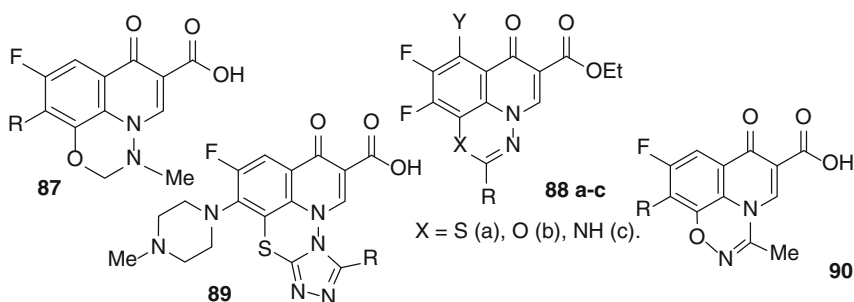
A number of ofloxacin analogues modified in position 10, including the well-known antibacterial drug pazufloxacin **84**, have been synthesized [263–265]. Some compounds of this series show a high activity towards a number of microorganisms, such as *Shigella flexneri*, *Proteus vulgaris* [263]. It is worth noting that (3*S*)-10-[*Cis*-(3*S*,4*S*)-3-amino-4-(fluoromethyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]-9-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-7-oxo-7*H*-pyrido[1,2,3-*d,e*]

[1,4]benzoxazin-6-carboxylic acid **85** is more active than levofloxacin against *Staphylococcus aureus* 870307 [266]. An analogue of ofloxacin, containing a macrocyclic fragment in position 6 has been described [267]. All kinds of modifications of the structure of ofloxacin have been performed by varying substituents not only in positions 6 and 10, but also in the oxazine ring. In particular, compounds **86** show a comparable with ofloxacin activity against Gram-positive and negative microorganisms, and a high activity towards methicillin-resistant strain of *S. aureus* MR5867 [MIC 0,016–0,25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ for compound **86** (X=O, R=3-cyclopropylaminomethyl-1-pyrrolidine)] (Scheme 39) [268].



Scheme 39 Structure of fluoroquinolones **84–86**

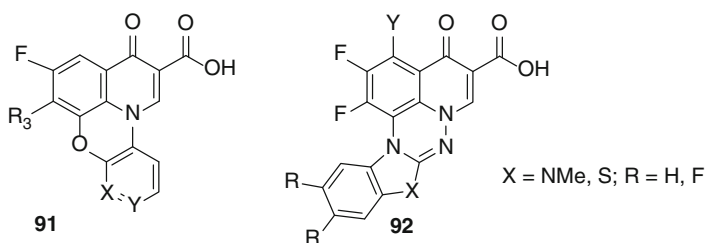
Marbofloxacin 87 is a representative of another promising group of tricyclic fluoroquinolones, pyridino[3,2,1-*i,j*]-1,3,4-benzoxadiazines, is widely used in veterinary practice (Scheme 40) [269].



Scheme 40 Structure of fluoroquinolones **87–90**

Synthetic methods to obtain other members of the family of [*i,j*]-annulated fluoroquinolones have been developed. For instance, derivatives of 1,3,4-thiadiazino[6,5,4-*i,j*]-, 1,3,4-oxadiazino[6,5,4-*i,j*]- and 1,2,4-triazino[5,6,1-*i,j*]-annulated quinolones **88a-c** have been obtained by means of cyclization of 2-polyfluorobenzoyl acrylates bearing hydrazide, thiosemicarbazide or amidrazone moieties in position 3 [270–275]. Thiadiazino-fused quinolones **88a** and compounds derived from displacement of fluorine atoms in positions 8 and 10 with cycloalkylimines are of great interest as promising compounds exhibiting not only

antibacterial but also other types of biological activity [276, 277]. Synthesis of tetracyclic quinolones **89**, in which the thiadiazine fragment is fused with both the pyridine and triazole rings has been described [278]. Activity of compounds **89** with R=H, Me against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria is comparable with that of ofloxacin. Another core structure close to ofloxacin is 1,2,4-oxadiazino[*i,j*]-annulated fluoroquinolone **90** which was obtained by cyclization of 3-[1-(hydroxyiminoethyl)amino] acrylate [279]. The synthesis of tetracyclic fluoroquinolones **91** has been reported [280, 281]. The structure of novel pentacyclic fluoroquinolones **92** (Scheme 41), obtained by cyclization of ethyl 3-(benzazol-2-yl)hydrazino-2-poly-fluorobenzoyl acrylates, was elucidated by X-ray crystallography [282–284].

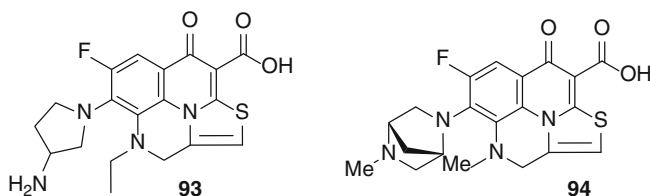


Scheme 41 Structure of fluoroquinolones **91**, **92**

As a rule, cyclizations of 1-substituted 8-fluoroquinolones have an advantage in comparison with annelation of the pyridine ring to a benzazine moiety, thus allowing one to vary annelated fragments to a greater extent. However, the synthesis of levofloxacin is an exception, since the scheme suggesting to obtain first the optically active benzoxazine, as the key intermediate, followed by annelation of the pyridone fragment proved to be a more successful one.

2.2.7 Tetracyclic [*a,i,j*]-Annelated Fluoroquinolones

Several examples of tetracyclic [*a,i,j*]-annellated fluoroquinolones are available in the literature. In particular, compounds **93** and **94**, bearing 3-aminopyrrolidine and (*1S,4S*)-5-methyl-2,5-diazabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane fragments, respectively are considered to be rather promising because they both exceed ofloxacin in antibacterial activity (Scheme 42) [285, 286].



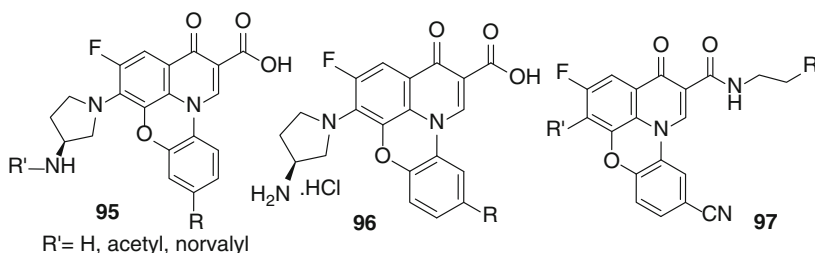
Scheme 42 Structure of tetracyclic fluoroquinolones **93**, **94**

3 Other Types of Biological Activity of Fluoroquinolones

During the last decades compounds of the fluoroquinolone family proved to be not only effective inhibitors of bacterial enzymes; their antineoplastic [287], antiviral [41] (including concerning HIV [288]), anti-diabetic [289] and other types [290, 291] of biological activity have been intensively elucidated.

3.1 Anticancer Activity

Some representatives of the fluoroquinolone family, especially polycyclic compounds, are capable of inhibiting topoisomerase II, the key enzyme for replication DNA, and this is why they are promising for development of antineoplastic drugs [172, 292, 293]. In particular, a profound antineoplastic activity is demonstrated by quinobenzoxazines **95–97** (Scheme 43) [293–298]. Fluoroquinolone **95** ($R'=H$) is more active towards some tumor cells than such antineoplastic drugs, as adriamycin, camptotecin and etoposide [299]. Relationships between the nature of substituents in the amino fragment and the benzene ring of compounds **95–96** and their abilities to suppress the growth of tumor cells have been studied. Compounds with $R'=H$ and $R=Cl, NO_2$ were shown to inhibit not only topoisomerase II, but also topoisomerase I [280, 299–301]. Amides **97** proved to suppress effectively the growth of HCT-116 cells, IC_{50} values 0,03–0,4 μM [295].

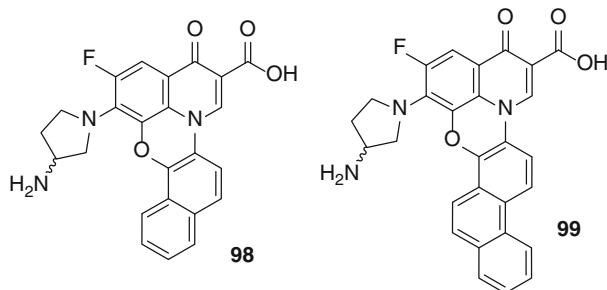


Scheme 43 Structure of fluoroquinolones **95–97**

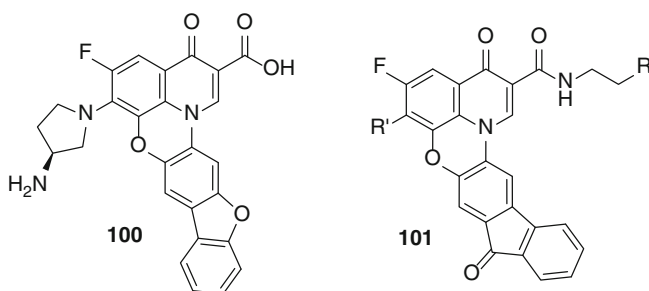
Further steps to modify the structure quinobenzoxazines **95** involve annelation of the benzene rings to the benzoxazine fragment, as illustrated by the synthesis of benzo- and dibenzoderivatives **98** and **99** (Scheme 44) [299, 302]. Research studies on activity of pentacyclic derivatives **98** towards a number of tumor cells have shown that *R*-isomers are much more active, than *S*-isomers (Table 7). Also it has been revealed that a molecular target for fused fluoroquinolones **99** is the site of DNA capable of forming the quadruplex [303]. It has been shown that *R*-isomer **99** is characterized by a strong linkage with G-quadruplex and a low influence on topoisomerase II, while the *S*-isomer **99** has a strong linkage with topoisomerase II and a low interaction with G-quadruplex [296].

Table 7 Inhibition of cancer cells by pentacyclic fluoroquinolones **98**

Cell lines	Value IC_{50} <i>in vitro</i> , μM	
	(<i>S</i>)-isomer	(<i>R</i>)-isomer
B16 (melanoma)	0.2	0.02
MDA-231 (breast cancer)	0.08	0.005
H226 (lung cancer)	0.03	0.01
HT-29 (colon cancer)	0.05	0.03
DU 145 (prostate cancer)	0.06	0.03

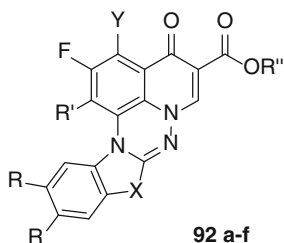
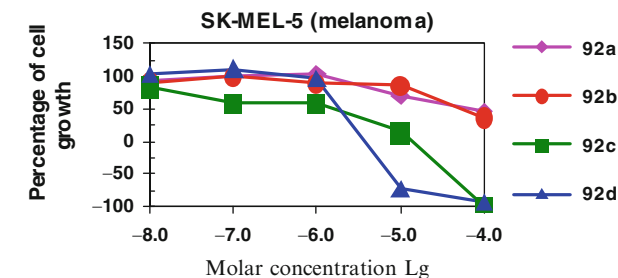
**Scheme 44** Structure of fluoroquinolones **98**, **99**

The data of biological tests on activity of compound **100** (drug QQ58), as an intercalator of DNA [304] confirmed that this compound inhibits human telomerase (IC_{50} 28 μM); in organisms it is transformed into qarfloxacin which is linked with DNA G-quadruplexes [300, 304–306]. Polynuclear fluoroquinolones, containing the amide fragment, for example **101** (Scheme 45), have been shown to inhibit effectively the HeLa (mammalian cancer) growth (IC_{50} 0,1–0,2 μM) [303, 307, 308].

**Scheme 45** Structure of fluoroquinolones **100**, **101**

Other fused fluoroquinolones, derivatives of benzazolotriazino[*i,j*]-annelated quinolon-6-carboxylic acids **92** have shown anticancer activity [309]. Biological tests on 9 types of tumors revealed that annelation of 1-methylbenzimidazo fragment to the triazine ring is more effective for suppression of cell growth, than that of the benzothiazole ring. An increase in numbers of fluorine atoms in the benzene rings of quinoline or benzazole fragments enhance antineoplastic action of pentacyclic

Fig. 2 Cells growth suppression for derivatives **92a-d**

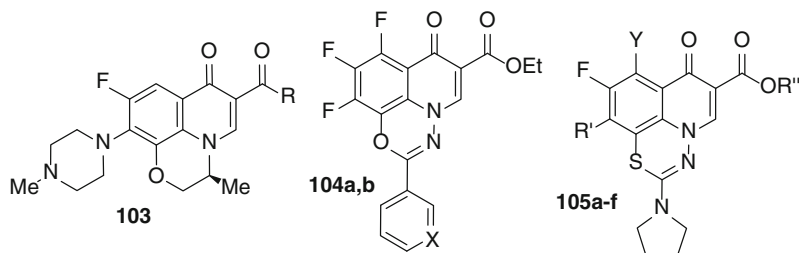


92: X=S, Y=R=R'=R''=H (a),
 X=NMe, Y=R=R'=H, R''=Et (b),
 X=NMe, Y=R=R'=R''=H (c),
 X=NMe, Y=R=R'=F, R''=H (d),
 X=NMe, Y=R=F, R''=H,
 R'=pyrrolidin-1-yl (f).

Scheme 46 Structure of fused fluoroquinolones **92**

derivatives; acids suppress growth of cells more strongly, than the corresponding ethyl esters. The biggest effect on melanoma has been observed *in vivo* experiments for fluoroquinolone **92d** (Scheme 46, Fig. 2) [310].

Derivatives of levofloxacin **103** (Scheme 47), bearing in position 3 a lipophilic fragment, or the benzothiazole fragment instead of the carboxyl group, proved to exhibit antineoplastic activity (Table 8) [311]. The highest level of activity against glioblastoma has been observed for the ester **103a**.



103: R = OCH₂OC(O)C₁₁H₂₃(a), OCH₂OC(O)C₁₇H₃₅(b), NHC₈H₁₇(c);

104: X = C-NO₂(a), N (b); **105:** R''=Et, Y=R'=F (a), Y=R'=Me₂N(CH₂)₃NH (b),

Y = H, R'=F (c); R''=H, Y=H, R'=F (d), Y = R' = F (f).

Scheme 47 Structure of fluoroquinolones **103–105**

Table 8 Activity of levofloxacin derivatives **103** against some cancer cells

Compound	IC ₅₀ <i>in vitro</i> , mkM				
	U373-MG (glioblastoma)	A549 (lung cancer)	PC-3 (prostate cancer)	LoVo (colon cancer)	MCF-7 (breast cancer)
Levofloxacin	188	70	238	67	622
103a	0.2	65	86	0.3	0.3
103b	0.9	593	100	4	12
103c	2.3	2.2	1.5	0.8	2.1

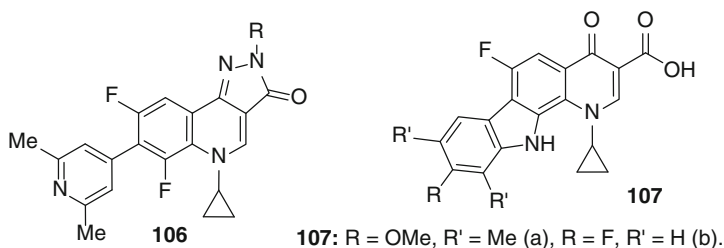
Table 9 Inhibitory and cytotoxicity properties of pyrazoloquinolones **106**

R	HeLa cell topo II inhibitory properties (EC ₅₀ , μM)	Cytotoxicity properties for P388 <i>in vitro</i> (IC ₅₀ , μM)
(CH ₂) ₂ NMe ₂	2.6	0.26
(CH ₂) ₃ NMe ₂	1.7	0.16
Cyclohexyl	0.9	0.68
CH(CH ₂ CH ₂) ₂ O	1.7	0.29
CH(CH ₂ CH ₂) ₂ NMe	3.2	0.094
CH(CH ₂ CH ₂) ₂ CHNH ₂ (<i>cis</i>)	0.5	0.44
CH(CH ₂ CH ₂) ₂ CHNMe ₂ (<i>cis</i>)	1.7	0.067
CH(CH ₂ CH ₂) ₂ CHNMe ₂ (<i>trans</i>)	4.4	0.26
1-Cyclopropyl-6,8-difluoro-7-(2,6-di-methyl-4-pyridinyl)-4 <i>H</i> -4-oxoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid	7.6	29
1-Cyclopropyl-6,8-difluoro-7-(2,6-di-methyl-4-pyridinyl)-4 <i>H</i> -quinoline-4-one	17	15

Antineoplastic activity of fluorine-containing derivatives of 1,3,4-oxa(thia)-diazine[6,5,4-*i,j*]quinolon-6-carboxylic acids **104**, **105** has been studied on cultures of 60 lines of cancer cells for nine groups, such as leukemia, lung cancer, colon cancer, CNS cancer, melanoma, ovarian cancer, renal cancer, prostate cancer, mammalian cancer [309, 310]. In the series of thiadiazinoquinolines the highest effect on antineoplastic activity has been observed for compounds **105a** and **105b** bearing such pharmacophoric fragment, as N,N-dimethyl-1,3-diaminopropane. In case of compound **105b** the full death of nearly all tumor cells MCF7 and SF-268 (more than 90 %) has been reached. Biological tests of compounds **105a,c,d,f** have shown that the presence of a fluorine atom in position 8 facilitates suppression of cell growth. Also a high activity of compound **105a** towards leukemia has been established [309, 310].

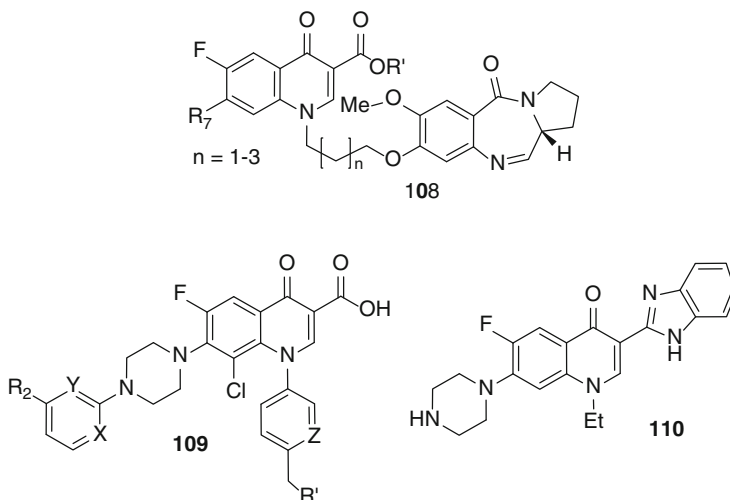
Not only [*i,j*]-annelated fluoroquinolones, but also polycyclic fluoroquinolones, in which an additional ring is annelated to [*c*]- or [*h*]-sides proved to possess antineoplastic action. Research studies on antineoplastic activity of 5-cyclopropyl-6,8-difluoro-7-(2,6-dimethyl-4-pyridinyl)-5*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*c*]quinolin-3(2*H*)-ones **106** have shown that derivatives containing the cyclohexyl group in position 2 are the most effective inhibitors of topoisomerase II of HeLa cells (mammalian cancer), while the dimethylaminocyclohexyl compound has shown the best data on cytotoxicity towards P388 (leukemia) cells (Table 9) [312].

6-Fluoro-4-oxopyridino[2,3-*a*]-carbazol-3-carboxylic acids **107** inhibit MCF-7 (breast cancer) and A549 (lung cancer), activity of **107b** towards MCF-7 is twice higher, than that of ellipticine (Scheme 48) [198].



Scheme 48 Structure of fluoroquinolones **106**, **107**

Also a number of bicyclic fluoroquinolones are capable of suppressing the growth of tumor cells. Incorporation of pyrrolo[2,1-*c*][1,4]benzodiazepine fragment in position 1 of fluoroquinolones resulted in compounds **108**, which inhibit the growth of HT-29 (colon cancer) cells and A549 (lung cancer) up to 80 % [313]. Derivatives of 1-phenylsubstituted fluoroquinolones **109** suppress the growth of Solo205 (carcinoma) cells (IC_{50} values 2–20 nM) [314]. 3-Benzimidazolyl fluoroquinolone **110** and its analogues (Scheme 49), including [*i,j*]-oxazino



Scheme 49 Structure of fluoroquinolones **108–110**

Table 10 Tuberculostatic activity of some fluoroquinolones

Quinolone	MIC, $\mu\text{g/ml}$	Quinolone	MIC, $\mu\text{g/ml}$
Sparfloxacin	0.25	Trovaflaxacin	16
Sitaflaxacin	0.25	Grepafloxacin	1
Clinafloxacin	0.5	Pefloxacin	8
Gatifloxacin	0.12	Tosufloxacin	16
Ciprofloxacin	0.5	Temafloxacin	4
Moxifloxacin	0.5	Fleroxacin	6.25
Levofloxacin	0.5	Enoxacin	8
Ofloxacin	1	Oxolinic acid	32
Gemifloxacin	4	Flumequin	64
Garenofloxacin	2	Pipemidic acid	128
Norfloxacin	4	Nalidixic acid	128

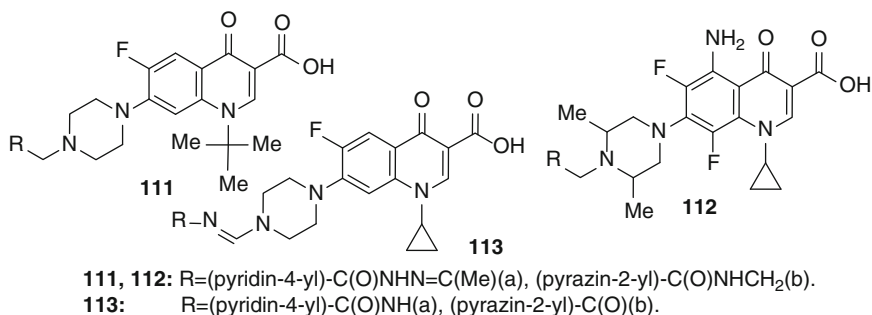
annelated compounds, proved to suppress the growth of tumor KV, A2780 and Bel7404 cells [315].

Rather high antineoplastic activity of ciprofloxacin derivatives, containing a substituent in position 4 of the piperazine fragment has been shown [302]. Elucidation of the “structure-activity” relationships for 1-(2-thiazolyl)-6-fluoro-1,4-dihydro-4-oxo-1,8-naphthyridin-3-carboxylic acids has shown that several compounds of this series exhibit activity, comparable with the well-known drug *etoposide* [316–318]. Also the data on activity of amides of 7-substituted 1-(2-thiazolyl)- and 1-(2-benzothiazolyl)-1,8-naphthyridin-4-on-3-carboxylic acids have been reported [319]. Ethyl 1-(4-cyano-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)-6,7,8-trifluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydroquinolin-3-carboxylate proved to inhibit the phosphorylation process of transcription STAT3 activator that plays an important role for cancer therapy [320].

3.2 Tuberculostatic Activity

Being effective inhibitors of DNA-gyrase of mycobacteria some derivatives of fluoroquinolones are important for therapy of rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis [321]. In particular, values of minimum inhibitory concentrations against *M. tuberculosis* for a number of elucidated fluoroquinolones proved to be in the range from 0,12 to 128 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ (Table 10) [322, 323].

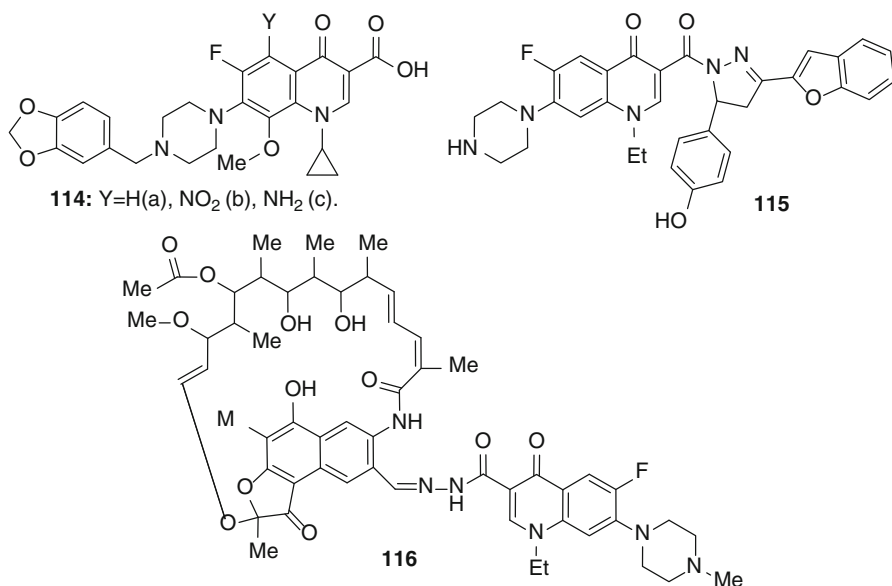
An important synthetic approach for development of fluoroquinolones which are active against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* appears to be introduction of isoniazide and pyrazinamide residues into the piperazine fragment in position 7. Indeed, 1-*tert*-butyl substituted fluoroquinolones **111** and 1-cyclopropyl-5-amino-fluoroquinolones **112** proved to exhibit a high activity towards *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* *in vivo* [38]. The minimum inhibitory concentration against *M. tuberculosis* H₃₇R_v for compound **113b** is 0,78 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ (Scheme 50) [324]. Also quinolones, bearing residues of hydrazides of substituted benzoic acids, which can be regarded as



Scheme 50 Structure of fluoroquinolones **111–113**

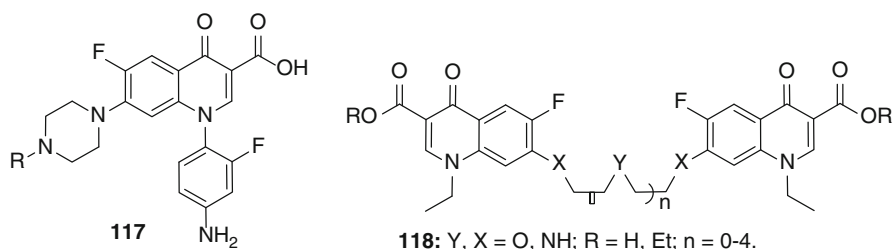
isosters of isoniazide, proved to be active compounds (MIC 0,5 µg/ml for multiresistant *M. tuberculosis* A8 241) [325].

1-Cyclopropyl-8-methoxyquinolones **114** are active against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, its multi-resistant strains, as well as *Mycobacterium smegmatis* [326]. Derivative **115** possesses tuberculostatic activity against *Meningitis tuberculosis* H₃₇R_v (MIC 0,16–0,35 µg/ml) [327]. 1-[(6'-Fluoro-1',4'-dihydro-7-(4''-methyl-1''-piperazinyl)-1'-ethyl-4'-oxo-3'-quinolylamido)-3-iminomethyl]-rifampicin **116** proved to exhibit a considerable tuberculostatic activity (Scheme 51) [328].



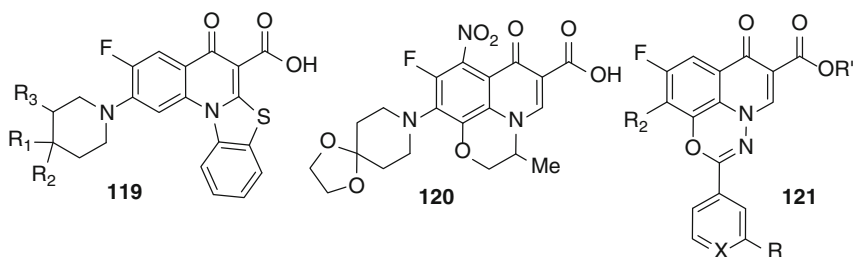
Scheme 51 Structure of fluoroquinolones **114–116**

1-(4'-Amino-2'-fluoro)phenyl substituted fluoroquinolones **117** (R=H, Me) inhibit the growth of *M. tuberculosis* [329]. Incorporation of aminoester or polyethyleneamino fragments has been suggested to increase their ability to penetrate through cellular membranes. Indeed, fluoroquinolones **118** have been established to possess a high specific activity against mycobacteria and a low toxicity [330]. Tuberculostatic activity of derivatives **118** (R=H; X, Y=O; n=4) proved to be five times higher than that of pefloxacin (Scheme 52).



Scheme 52 Structure of compounds **117**, **118**

Several compounds [331] of the benzothiazolo[3,2-*a*]quinolone-6-carboxylic acids **119** family (Scheme 53) exhibit high tuberculostatic activity relative to multi-resistant strain of *M. tuberculosis* (Table 11).



Scheme 53 Structure of fluoroquinolones **119**–**121**

Ofloxacin and its analogs are promising drugs for tuberculosis treatment. Ofloxacin (daily dose 300–800 mg) and levofloxacin (250–500 mg a day) in

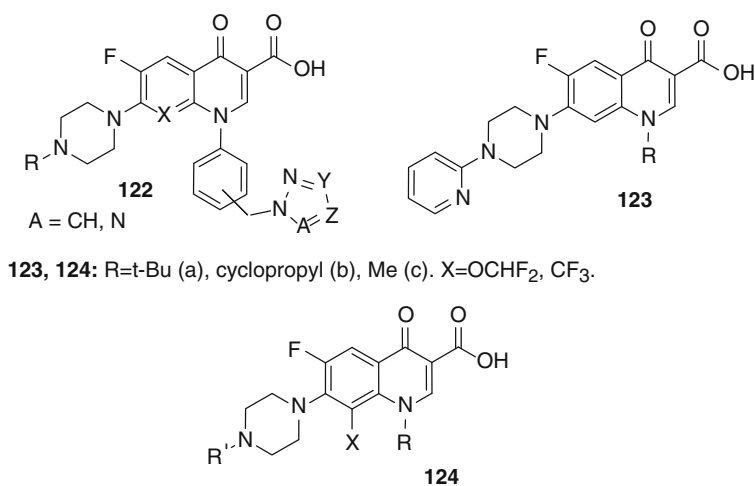
Table 11 Tuberculostatic activity of fluoroquinolones **119**

	MIC, µg/ml		
	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	Multiresistant strain of <i>M. tuberculosis</i>	<i>M. smegmatis</i> ATCC 14468
R ¹ , R ² , R ³			
R ¹ =piperidin-1-yl, R ² =R ³ =H	0.39	0.19	6.53
R ¹ =4-ClC ₆ H ₄ , R ² =OH, R ³ =H	0.36	0.36	2.98
R ¹ =R ² =H, R ³ =Et ₂ NC(O)	0.18	0.08	3.15
R ³ =H, R ¹ , R ² =OCH ₂ CH ₂ O	0.86	0.86	6.89

combination with *p*-aminosalicylic acid, cycloserine, or ethionamid are effective for the treatment of multi-resistant strains of tuberculosis. On using of these fluoroquinolones, a relatively high concentration in cells is reached, that increasing their antibacterial activity [38]. Derivatives of ofloxacin, containing the nitro group in position 8, e.g. **120** proved to possess a high tuberculostatic activity [332]. Also compounds showing tuberculostatic activity have been found among oxadiazinoquinolines **121** and thiadiazinoquinolines **105** (MIC 0,2–0,4 µg/ml) [276, 277].

3.3 Antiviral Activity

Fluoroquinolones **122**, bearing the (triazolylmethyl)phenyl fragment in position 1 and an aryl substituent in position 4 of piperazine, are capable of protecting the HIV-infected cells from a virus-induced destruction (IC₅₀ 0,25–0,7 µM). They appear to be a new structural type of effective drugs for treatment and prevention of viral diseases caused by HIV retroviruses [333]. Fluoroquinolones **123** with 4-(2'-pyridinyl)-1-piperazine fragment in position 7, inhibit reverse transcriptase of HIV-1 [334]. 8-Difluoromethoxy- and 8-trifluoromethylcarboxylic acids **124** inhibit replication of HIV-1, while CF₃- derivatives are more active against HIV-1 than the corresponding difluoromethoxy compounds (Scheme 54, Table 12) [335–338].



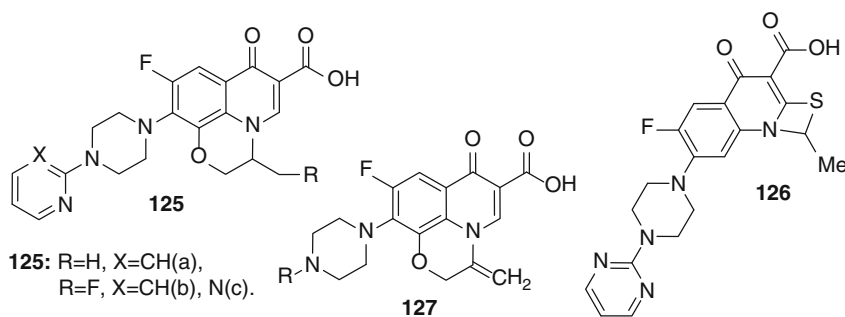
Scheme 54 Structure of fluoroquinolones **122–124**

[*i,j*]-Annellation of the oxazine ring is favorable for exhibiting of antiviral activity, but does not lead to such promising compounds, as 8-methoxy- and

Table 12 Inhibition of HIV-1 by **124**

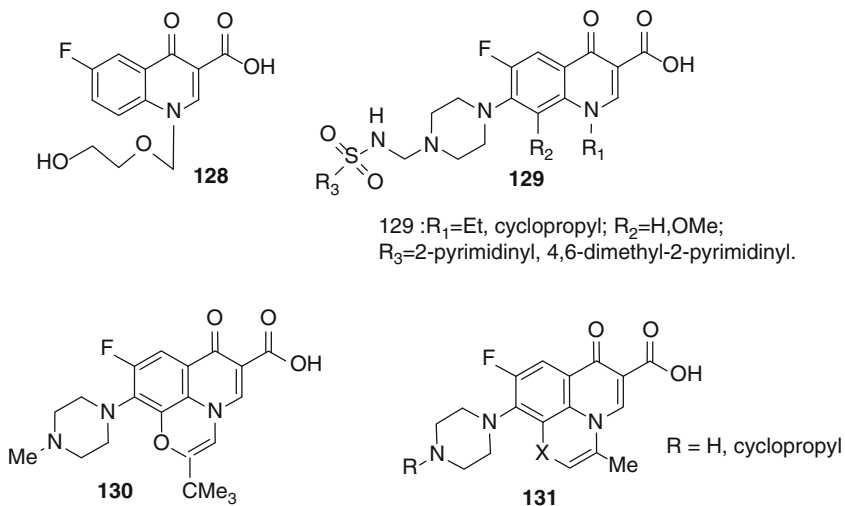
R	R'	IC ₅₀ , μM	
		8-CF ₃	8-OCHF ₂
Me	2-OMeC ₆ H ₄	0.054	0.35
Et	2-OMeC ₆ H ₄	0.11	0.22
Cyclopropyl	2-OMeC ₆ H ₄	0.069	0.56
Me	2-pyrimidinyl	0.049	0.31
Et	2-pyrimidinyl	0.095	0.47
Cyclopropyl	2-pyrimidinyl	0.19	3.7
Me	2-pyridyl	0.014	0.24
Et	2-pyridyl	0.026	0.89
Cyclopropyl	2-pyridyl	0.065	0.49

difluoro-methoxy derivatives [339]. Fluoroquinolone **125c** is more active against the virus HIV-1, than thiazeto derivative **126** [336]. Values IC₅₀ 3,7 μM for **125a** and 1,7 μM for **125b** have been found, while values EC₅₀ 0,074 μg/ml for **125c** and 0,4 μg/ml for **126** have been obtained. Also a number of tricyclic fluoroquinolones **127** proved to possess a high activity (EC₅₀ 0,008–2.3 μg/ml) (Scheme 55) [340]. Also effective compounds against HIV-1 have been discovered in the series of the Mannich bases of norfloxacin [341].

**Scheme 55** Structure of fluoroquinolones **125–127**

Fluoroquinolone **128** bearing the (2-hydroxyethoxy)methyl fragment at N-1 is active against **herpes virus** HSV-1 (EC₅₀ 2,30 μM), however the level of its activity is lower than that of *acyclovir* (EC₅₀ 1,09 μM) [41]. 8-Trifluoromethylquinolones **124** have been reported to suppress **human cytomegalovirus** [342]. Fluoroquinolones **129**, containing the sulphamidomethyl group in a piperazine fragment, are active against **influenza** H1N1, H3N2 and H5N1 **viruses** [343]. Tricyclic fluoroquinolones **130**, **131** were found to possess a high activity against hepatitis B virus (IC₅₀ 0,1 μM) (Scheme 56) [344, 345].

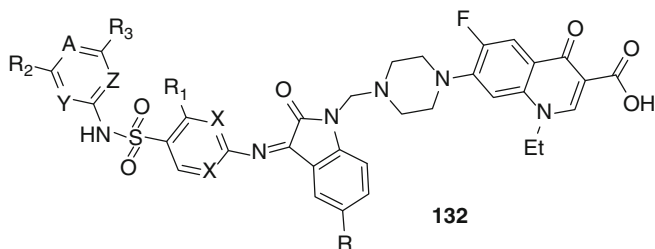
Ciprofloxacin and levofloxacin are recommended for treatment of patients after transplantation surgery operations in order to prevent the disease caused by poliovirus BK [346].



Scheme 56 Structure of fluoroquinolones 128–131

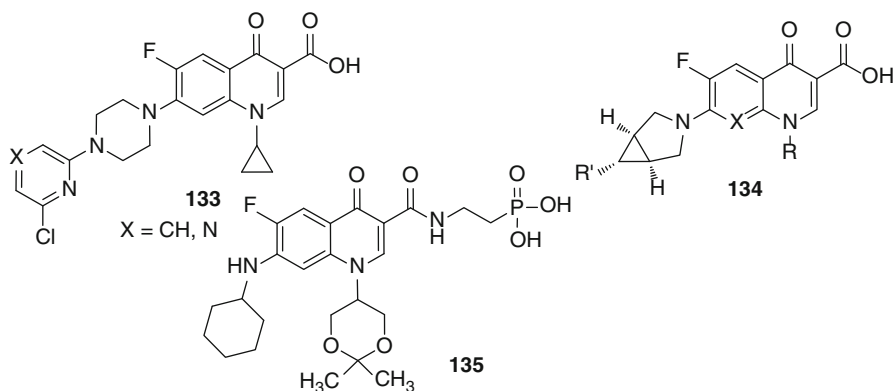
3.4 Other Types of Biological Activity

Some fluoroquinolones appear to be active against **fungi and parasites**. For instance, the Mannich derivatives of *norfloxacin* **132** demonstrate a considerable antifungal activity against *Histoplasma capsulatum*. One of compounds of this family is more active than *clotrimazole* towards *Microsporium audouinii*, while other derivatives surpass *clotrimazole* in relation to *Cryptococcus neoformans* or *Microsporium gypsum*. From all derivatives **132** which have been studied (Scheme 57), compound with R=Br, X=N, R¹=NH₂, Y-Z=CH, A=COMe, R²-R³=OMe proved to exhibit the highest antifungal activity (MIC for *Cryptococcus neoformans* and *Microsporium audouinii* 0,6 µg/ml) [341].



Scheme 57 Structure of fluoroquinolones **132**

Moxifloxacin, gatifloxacin, trovafloxacin, and grepafloxacin belong to a new generation of fluoroquinolones, showing anti-parasitic activity against *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Plasmodium falciparum* which cause such severe diseases as toxoplasmosis and malaria, respectively. These fluoroquinolones are targeting at the DNA-gyrase, located in a top layer of parasites [347]. For example, the IC_{50} value for trovafloxacin against *Toxoplasma gondii* is 0,96 μ M. The data on activity of fluoroquinolones **133** against parasites (*Coccidia*) [348], and activity of 7-(3'-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexyl)quinolones **134** in relation to plasmodium have recently been reported (Scheme 58) [149].

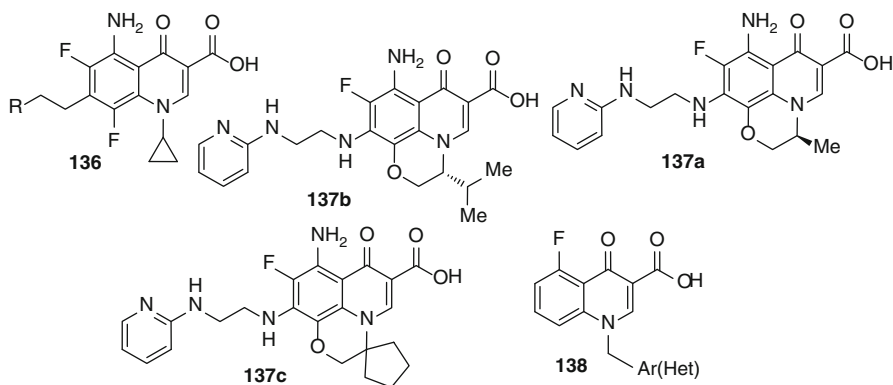


Scheme 58 Structure of fluoroquinolones **133–135**

Table 13 Inhibition of GSK by fluoroquinolones **136**, **137**

Compound	R	IC ₅₀ , nM
136a	4-NH ₂ C ₆ H ₄	900
136b	C ₆ H ₅	440
136c	imidazol-1-yl	3,400
136d	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	45
136e	(imidazol-1-yl)methyl	45
136f	CH ₂ CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	290
136g	(pyridin-2-yl)amino	22
137a		44
137b		31
137c		12

Some fluoroquinolones have been shown to exhibit **cardiovascular, hypertensive, and antitrombocyte** activities. For instance, compound **135** inhibits aggregation of trombocytes [349]. According to the recently published data, 5-amonofluoroquinolones **136** and **137** are active as **glycogensynthase-kinase-3 β inhibitors** (GSK, serine-treonine-proteinkinase) [265]. Bi- and tricyclic fluoroquinolones, bearing the fragment of N-(2-pyridinyl)ethylenediamine appear to be promising GSK inhibitors (Table 13) [265]. **138**, their 8-fluoro- and 5,8-difluoroderivatives proved to be selective allosteric **modulators of M1 receptor**, activation of which is important for therapy of the Alzheimer's disease (Scheme 59) [350–353].



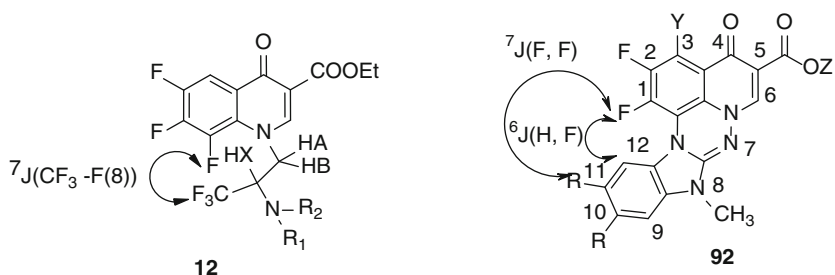
138:Het = 1-methyl-2,3-dihydroindol-5-yl, 1-methylindazol-5-yl, indazol-5-yl, 5-arylpiperidin-2-yl.

Scheme 59 Structure of fluoroquinolones **136–138**

4 Structure and Spectral Characteristics

The structure of fluoroquinolones has been elucidated in crystals and solutions. The data on X-ray crystallography analysis of fluoroquinolones are available in the literature for both quinolones [89, 123, 354, 355], and their polycyclic [204, 231, 232, 270, 271, 282, 283, 356] condensed systems.

The ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{19}F NMR spectra for the series of fluoroquinolones have been registered and analyzed. ^1H , ^{13}C NMR spectra of fluoroquinolones bearing rather complicated optically active fragments, including heteronuclear correlation experiments, have been discussed in the literature [164–168]. Elucidation of NMR ^{19}F spectra of compounds **12** has revealed long-range coupling constants $^7J_{\text{F-F}}$ between the trifluoromethyl group and fluorine atom in position 8, which are realized through space due to vicinity of interacting spins [39]. The ^{19}F NMR spectra of benzimidazo [2',3':3,4]-1,2,4-triazino[5,6,1-*i,j*]quinoline ring system **92** demonstrate unusual through space ^1H - ^{19}F and ^{19}F - ^{19}F spin-spin interactions with coupling constants $^7J(\text{F}^1, \text{F}^{11}) = 3.5\text{--}4.0\text{ Hz}$ and $^6J(\text{F}^1, \text{H}^{12}) = 2.0\text{--}3.0\text{ Hz}$ (Scheme 60) [284].



Scheme 60 Long-range coupling constants in compounds **12**, **92**

5 Complexes of Fluoroquinolones with Metals

Due to the presence of the carboxyl and β -oxo groups, as well as azaheterocyclic fragments, fluoroquinolones have a profound ability to form metal-chelates, and other ionic structures. It is known that complexes with metals may enhance activity of fluoroquinolones due to a better solubility and endocellular accumulation [357, 358]. The crystal structures of a number of metal complexes, results of their thermal analysis, IR and NMR spectra of complexes and their bioactivity have been considered [359]. In the recently published review article [360] the data concerning the structure and properties of metal complexes of fluoroquinolones, and their interaction

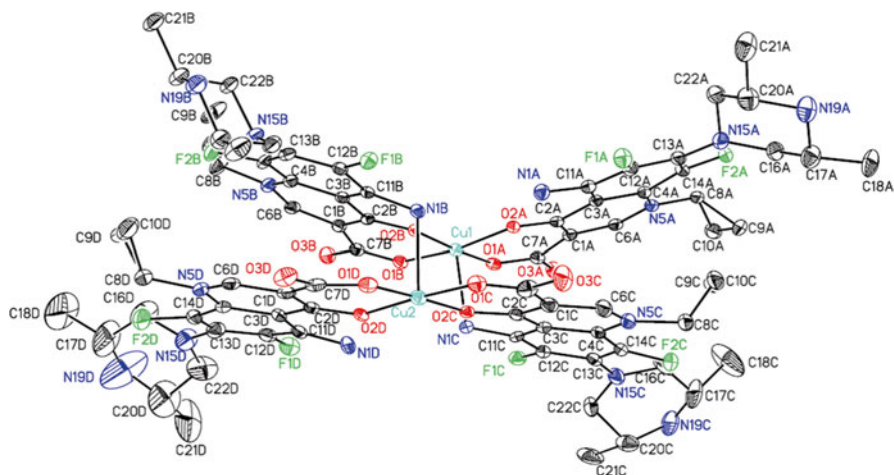
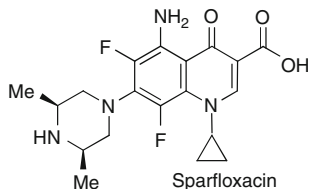


Fig. 3 Structure of complex $\text{Cu}_2(\text{sflx})_2$ (Reproduced with permission of Elsevier [365])

with DNA have been analyzed. Also physical and chemical characteristics, as well as pharmacokinetic data and antibacterial properties of fluoroquinolones complexes with a variety of metals have been reviewed [361].

The Cu(II)-complex of ciprofloxacin was shown to possess a high activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* than the parent compound [362]. An enhanced solubility of metal complexes in lipids facilitates their transport into bacteria cells, while an easily proceeding reduction of metal leads to the formation of Cu(I) and activation of oxygen which kills mycobacteria. Authors came to a conclusion that redox-active metal complexes are very promising compounds for development of highly active antitubercular drugs. Indeed, the minimum inhibitory concentration for enrofloxacin complex $\text{Cu}(\text{erx})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ against *E. coli* и *P. aeruginosa* is 0.125 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$, while the same index for the parent enrofloxacin is 1.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ [363]. Antibacterial activity of N-propyl norfloxacin (pr-norf) complex with CuCl_2 and phenanthroline (phen) $[\text{Cu}(\text{pr-norf})(\text{phen})\text{Cl}]$ has been reported [364]. For instance, the formation of sparfloxacin (sflx) (Scheme 61) dimeric complex with Cu(II) $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{sflx})_2]$ and mononuclear complex with phenanthroline $[\text{Cu}(\text{phen})(\text{sflx})\text{H}_2\text{O}]$ has been shown (Figs. 3 and 4) [365].



Scheme 61 Structure of sparfloxacin (sflx)

Antiproliferative effect of sparfloxacin and its metal complexes against hormone independent BT20 breast cancer cell line has been studied (Fig. 5) [365].

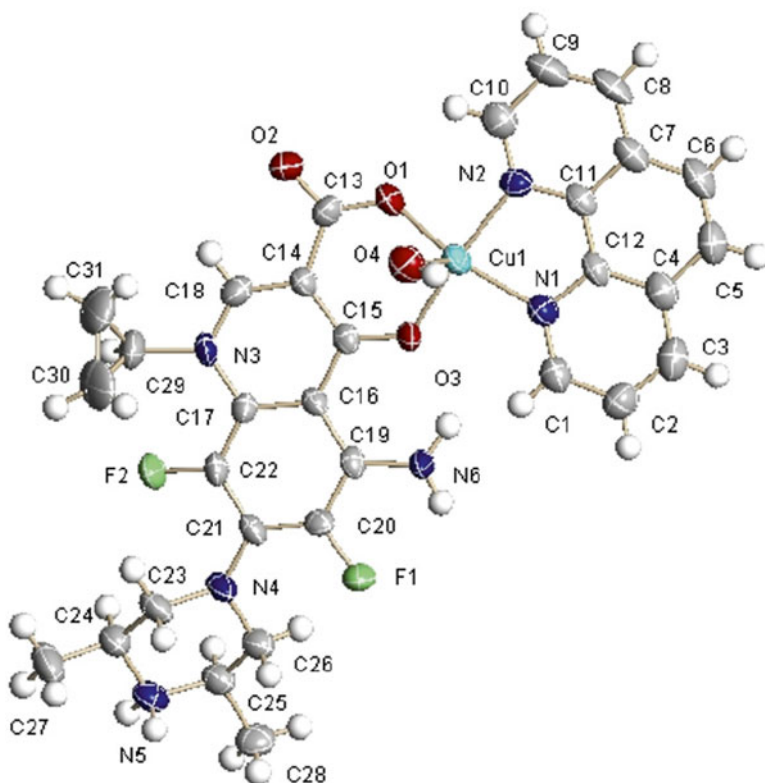
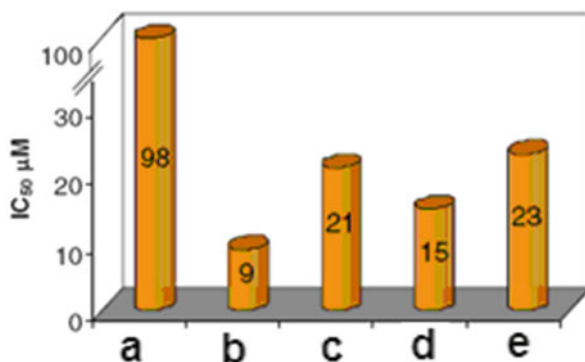


Fig. 4 Structure of complex $\text{Cu}(\text{phen})(\text{sflx})\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Reproduced with permission of Elsevier [365])

Fig. 5 Suppression of cells growth by sparfloxacin and its metal complexes, a- spfx, b- $\text{Cu}_2(\text{sflx})_2$, c- $[\text{Cu}(\text{bpy})(\text{sflx})\text{H}_2\text{O}]$, d- $[\text{Cu}(\text{phen})(\text{sflx})\text{H}_2\text{O}]$, e- $[\text{Cu}(\text{df})(\text{sflx})\text{H}_2\text{O}]$; bpy = bipyridine, phen = phenanthroline, df = 4,5-diazafluoren-9-one (Reproduced with permission of Elsevier [365])



Coordination of sparfloxacin with copper in the form of dimeric complex $\text{Cu}_2(\text{sflx})_2$ has been established to diminish the value of inhibitor concentration IC_{50} (μM) in approximately ten times. These data are in agreement with a hypothesis that biological activity of fluoroquinolones is in many respects caused by their ability for

metal chelate formation. Antitumor activity of moxifloxacin-copper complexes against breast cancer cell lines has also been described [366].

Complex of norfloxacin $[\text{Fe}(\text{nf})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was shown to exhibit a higher antibacterial activity than the parent norfloxacin against *E. coli* and *Bacillus dysenteriae* bacteria [367]. Also it is worth noting that antimicrobial activity of cobalt complexes of ciprofloxacin is less, than that of copper complexes [368].

The reaction of ciprofloxacin (cfH) with metal salts in the presence of aromatic polycarboxylate ligands (or under basic conditions) has been found to give original metal–cfH complexes, for example, $[\text{Ba}_2(\text{cf})_2(1,4\text{-bdc})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $[\text{Mn}(\text{cfH})(1,3\text{-bdc})]$ (bdc = benzenedicarboxylate). The structure of $[\text{Ba}_2(\text{cf})_2(1,4\text{-bdc})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ consists of unique two-dimensional arm-shaped layers (Fig. 6), while the second complex contains double-chain-like ribbons constructed from $[\text{Mn}_2(\text{cfH})_2(\text{CO}_2)_2]$ dimers and 1,3-bdc (Fig. 7) [369].

Supramolecular structure of cadmium complexes of ciprofloxacin $[\text{Cd}_2(\text{cf})_2(\text{bptc})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ is shown in Fig. 8 [369]. Two units are connected together by $\mu_3\text{-O}$ atoms of carboxylic groups from cf ligands in an edge-sharing mode to form $[\text{M}_2(\text{cfH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$ dimers.

Complexes of norfloxacin with zinc(II), such as $[\text{Zn}(\text{nf})_2] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $[\text{Zn}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{nf})_2](\text{NO}_3)_2$, were found to exhibit a strong blue fluorescent emission [370]. The complex of Zn(II) with enrofloxacin and pyridine, as the second N-donative ligand, $[\text{Zn}(\text{erx})_2(\text{py})_2] \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{MeOH}$ has been obtained (Fig. 9). Such complexes were found to interact with CT-DNA, thus demonstrating their ability to bind with DNA. According to the data obtained by using the UV spectroscopic titration technique, the binding strength for $\text{Zn}(\text{orx})_2(\text{py})_2$ corresponds to the highest K_b value [371].

The formation of ofloxacin complexes with magnesium has been studied by using NMR ^1H and 2D $^1\text{H}\text{-}^{13}\text{C}$ HSQC methods [372]. Behavior of coordinative compounds of ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin and lomefloxacin with Al(III) in water solutions has been elucidated by NMR ^1H and ^{13}C spectroscopy [373]. Tetrakis[4-(3-carboxy-1-ethyl-6-fluoro-4-hydroxonio-1,4-dihydro-7-quinoly)-1-methyl-piperazin-1-ium] di- μ_2 -chlorido-bis[tetrachloridobismuthate(III)] tetrachloride octahydrate, $(\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{FN}_3\text{O}_3)_4[\text{Bi}_2\text{Cl}_{10}]\text{Cl}_4 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$, is composed of edge-shared centrosymmetric dinuclear $[\text{Bi}_2\text{Cl}_{10}]^{4-}$ anions, Cl^- anions, dihydrogen pefloxacinium cations and water molecules. The Bi^{III} coordination polyhedron is a distorted octahedron [374].

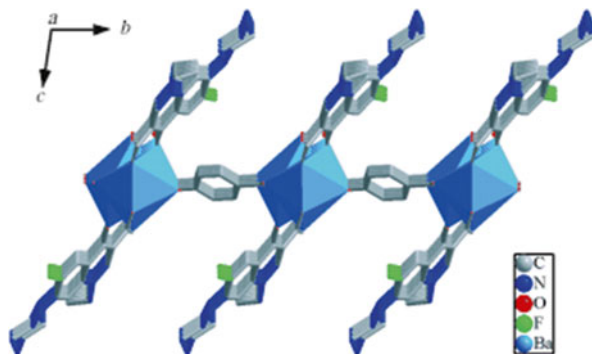


Fig. 6 Structure of complex $[\text{Ba}_2(\text{cf})_2(1,4\text{-bdc})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Reproduced with permission of Wiley [369])

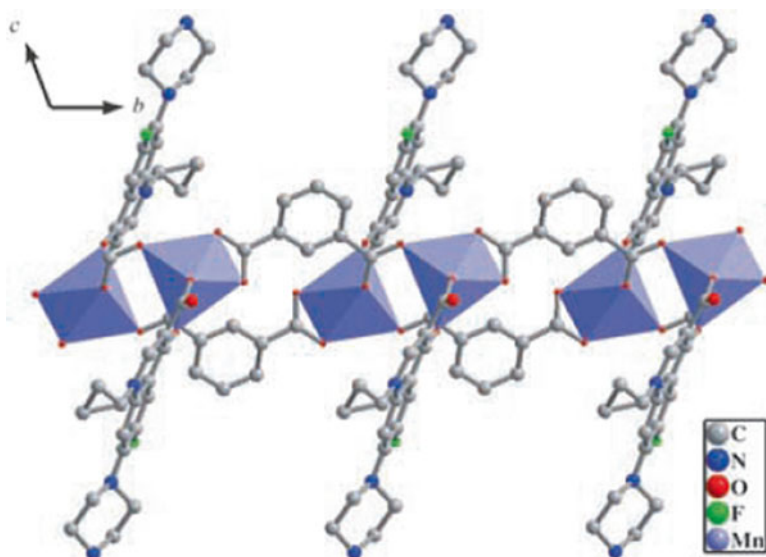


Fig. 7 Structure of complex, $[\text{Mn}(\text{cf})(1,3\text{-bdc})]$ (Reproduced with permission of Wiley [369])

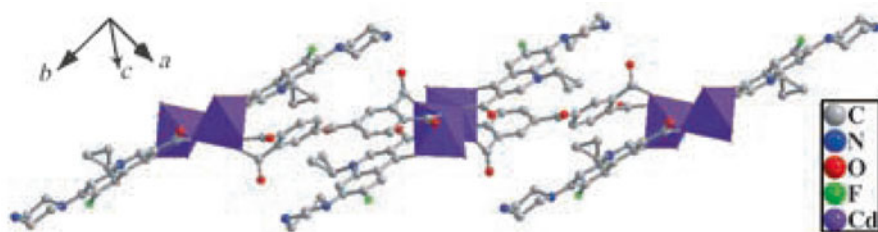


Fig. 8 Supramolecular structure of ciprofloxacin complex, $[\text{Cd}_2(\text{cf})_2(\text{bptc})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (bptc = 3,3',4,4'-benzophenontetracarboxylate) (Reproduced with permission of Wiley [369])

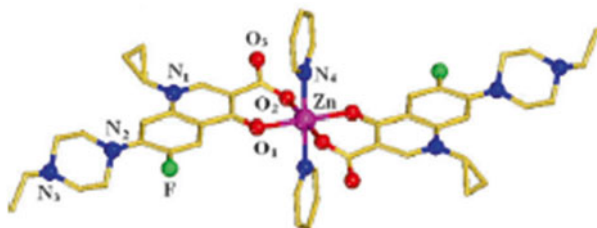
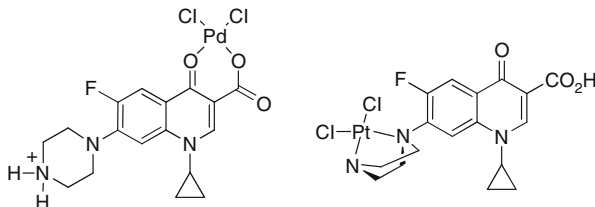


Fig. 9 Structure of complex $[\text{Zn}(\text{ern})_2(\text{py})_2] \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{MeOH}$ (Reproduced with permission of Elsevier [371])

One of the modern trend in the chemistry of fluoroquinolones is the formation of Pd(II) and Pt(II) complexes with a number of fluoroquinolones, such as ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin, ofloxacin, sparfloxacin and gatifloxacin [375, 376]. Two examples are given below Scheme 62.



Scheme 62 Pd(II) and Pt(II) complexes of fluoroquinolones

A great deal of complexes derived from enoxacin, norfloxacin, lomefloxacin, feroxacin, ofloxacin, rufloxacin, gatifloxacin and sparfloxacin and their luminescence properties of Tb^{3+} - and Eu^{3+} -complexes have been investigated (Fig. 10) [377]. Complexes of Tb^{3+} -enoxacin, Tb^{3+} -norfloxacin, Tb^{3+} -lomefloxacin and Tb^{3+} -feroxacin were shown to display a relatively strong emission intensity compared with Tb^{3+} -ofloxacin, Tb^{3+} -rufloxacin, Tb^{3+} -gatifloxacin and Tb^{3+} -sparfloxacin. Quite weak peaks with unique characters of Eu^{3+} at 590 and 617 nm have been observed in the luminescence spectra of Eu^{3+} -enoxacin, however no luminescence of Eu^{3+} could be detected when Eu^{3+} was added to other fluoroquinolones. The distinct changes in emission intensities for Tb^{3+} -fluoroquinolone and Eu^{3+} -fluoroquinolone complexes might originate from different energy gaps between the triplet levels of fluoroquinolones and the excited levels of Ln^{3+} . Thus, research studies in the field of complexes of fluoroquinolones with metals are aimed at obtaining of biologically active coordination compounds, and also to use of complex formation for quantitative analysis of fluoroquinolones.

In conclusion it is worth noting that despite the successes reached in area of synthesis, studying of biological activity and application of fluoroquinolones, tasks of design of new structures, development of synthetic approaches, modifications of existing drugs by means of incorporation of substituents into positions 1–8 as well as annelation of additional rings to quinolone fragment continue to remain actual. Not less important studying of structure–activity relations among fluoroquinolones as in process of accumulation of such material all new dependences of antibacterial activity on positions and the nature of the substituents in a fluoroquinolone fragment become clear. The increasing attention is given to the synthesis of optically active isomers among fluoroquinolones and to their use as medicines. Fluoroquinolones are known to be not only antibacterial drugs, but also as compounds exhibiting other types of biological activity. Development of novel anticancer and antiviral agents in the series of fluoroquinolones is in progress. Researches in the field of metalocomplexes of fluoroquinolonecarboxylic acids directed to elucidation of “structure – bioactivity”

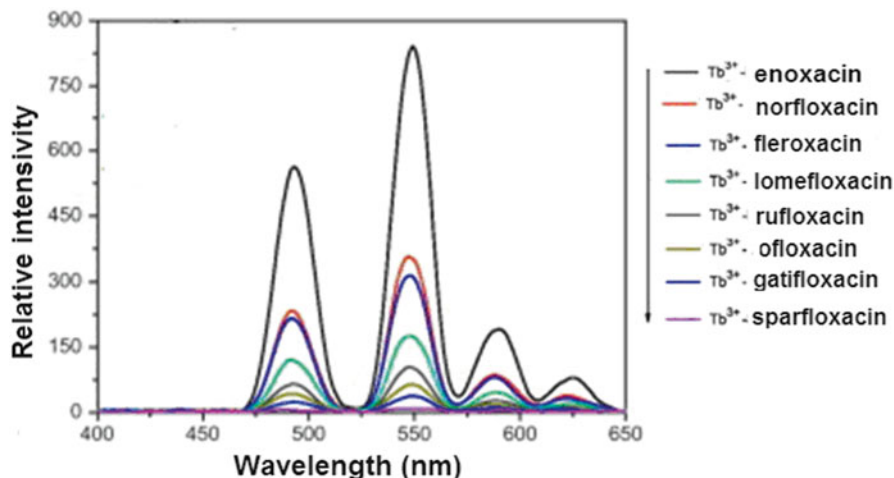


Fig. 10 Emission spectra of Tb^{3+} -complexes of some fluoroquinolones (Reproduced with permission of Elsevier [377])

relations and cation roles in interaction of fluoroquinolones with DNA are developed. Studying of complex formation of fluoroquinolones plays a crucial role for obtaining the fullest data on pharmacokinetic interaction of fluoroquinolones with other drugs.

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